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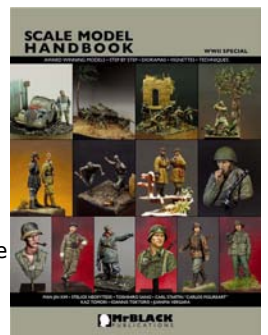


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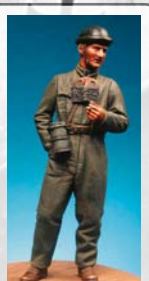
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21 Kingsway, Bedford, MK42 9BJ, UK
Telephone: +44 (0) 1234 211245
Fax: +44 (0) 1234 325927
Email: mail@sampublications.com

Publisher ■ SAM Publications
Group Editor ■ Andy Evans
Associate Editor ■ Andy Renshaw
Design ■ Jonathan Phillips
Editorial Consultant (UK): Keith Forsyth
Editorial Consultant (Dioramas): Leigh Jones
Editorial Consultant (Figures): Mark Dollery
Editorial Consultant (Weathering): Mark Chisholm
Editorial Consultant (USA) Todd Michalak
Editorial Correspondant (US): Kevin Potts
Editorial Correspondant (EU): Ivan Momcilovic

Contributors

Tom Cole; Carlos Cuesta; Robin Gilby;
Jacob Hederstierna-Johnsen; Steve Jagloski;
Anthony Tucker-Jones; Paul Middleton;
Christoff Theunissen; Konstantinos Tsiompris

Advertising Sales ■ Tim Upson-Smith
tim@mediapl.com ■ +44 (0) 1234 224995
Pre-press Production ■ Media House
Print Production ■ Headley Brothers, UK

■ Distribution by COMAG
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■ North American Distribution by Distcor
695 Westney Rd South, Suite 14, Ajax, Ontario,
Canada L1S 6M9 Tel: + 1 (905) 619 6565

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INVENTION AND SKILL!

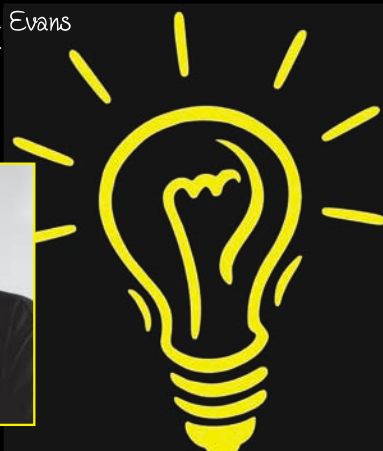
ONE OF THE GREAT PLEASURES OF WORKING ON SMMI IS THE SHEER VARIETY OF SUBJECTS WE CAN COVER EVERY MONTH, from the trenches of World War I right through to modern day Deserts of Iraq, stopping at all points in-between. It never ceases to amaze and delight me at the inventiveness and skill of our contributors as they turn lifeless pieces of plastic in vibrant replicas of tanks and AFV's, and oftentimes set them into some of the most ingenious dioramas! We are indeed fortunate to have such a talented team working on SMMI, and I am always interested to hear from any modeller who would like to be part of our ever-growing 'army'!

Speaking of ingenious diorama's, we have no fewer than three to bring you this month with Konstantinos Tsiompris 'Hürtgen Forest Rules of Engagement' scene, Christoff Theunissen brings his superb D-Day diorama showing a captured Atlantic Wall Bunker, and our cover feature of Ivan Momcilovic's AMX-10RCR Fire Support – French Style build! These really are top-notch works and we are proud to showcase them in our pages! Elsewhere

Keith Forsyth returns with a super BTR-60, and so does Kevin Potts with his Eastern Front Sd.Kfz.10/4, and Andy Renshaw adds another Jeep to our collection. Also be sure to check out our Q&A with John Bristow of Deluxe Materials and don't forget our unrivalled figure and military news sections!

Until next time, happy modelling!

Andy Evans
Editor



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AMMO
mig
Jimenez



RUSSIAN BTR-60P

Scale 1:35 / Armoured Personnel Carrier

battlefield

BTR-60P TRANSPORTER

KEITH FORSYTH BUILDS THE 1:35 TRUMPETER

APC MANUFACTURER

THE BTR IS A RUSSIAN SERIES OF AMPHIBIOUS EIGHT-WHEELED APC'S

(Armoured Personnel Carriers) that first appeared in the late 1950's. The original BTR-60P was soon found to have a few shortcomings as being open topped (a canvas cover being used in harsh weather) it left the soldiers inside very vulnerable, not only during combat missions but also due to the high level of the doors the task of actually entering and exiting the vehicle was a risk! It was capable of carrying sixteen soldiers alongside the driver and

commander; however, this capacity was reduced to fourteen in later versions once the vehicle became fully enclosed.

Trumpeter produces more or less the whole range of the BTR-60 series, so it made sense to start with the first one, the BTR-60P. The lower hull is a single piece to which you add a whole host of smaller details and suspension location points, some of the which are quite fine in their detail so care is need to remove them from the sprue. The actual suspension arms are three-piece affairs that need to be put together correctly as the middle-joining piece is sized differently at both ends. The instructions are not overly clear which way around it goes, and it took me a couple of attempts to get it correct.



BRONETRANSPORTER

BTR-60P APC

The interior being detailed with kit parts and supplied etch

Work is underway on the suspension



TRUMPETER PRODUCE MORE OR LESS THE WHOLE RANGE OF THE BTR-60 SERIES, SO IT MADE SENSE TO START WITH THE FIRST ONE, THE BTR-60P



KIT DATA

BTR-60P APC

Manufacturer: Trumpeter

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: plastic injection moulded with etch

Kit Number: 01542



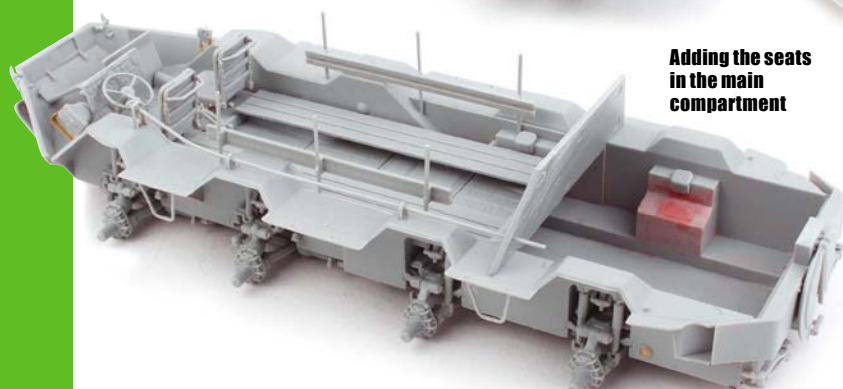
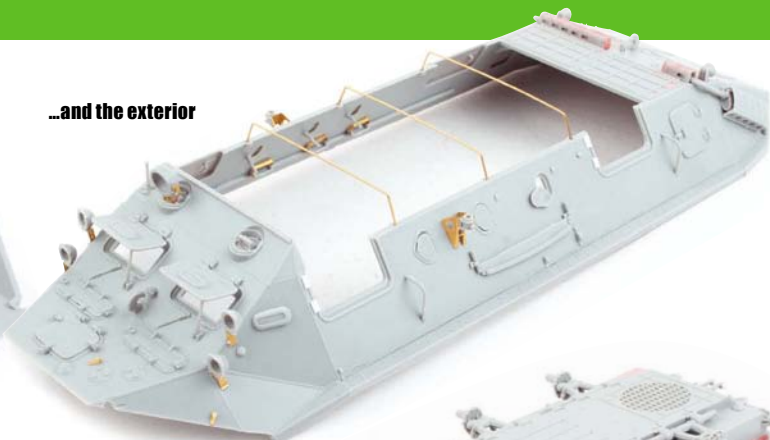
RUSSIAN BTR-60P

Scale 1:35 / Armoured Personnel Carrier

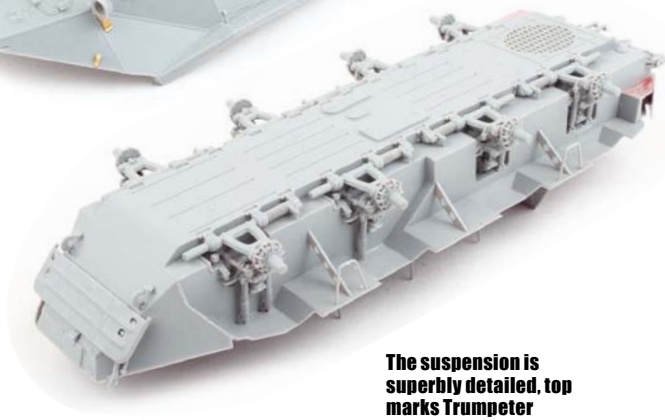


The insides of the upper hull being worked on...

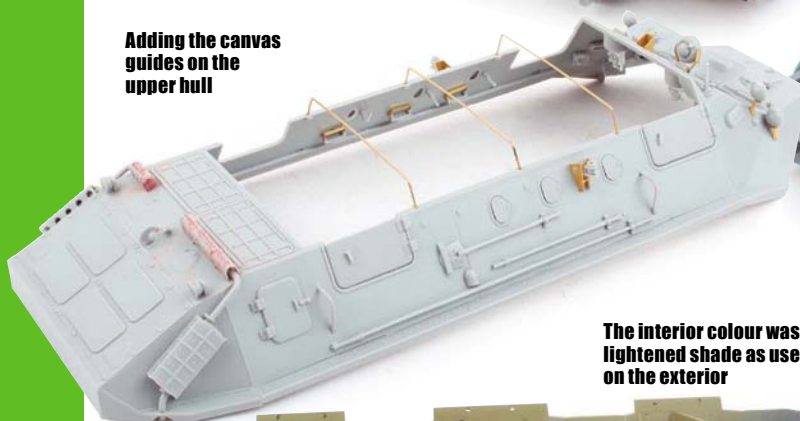
...and the exterior



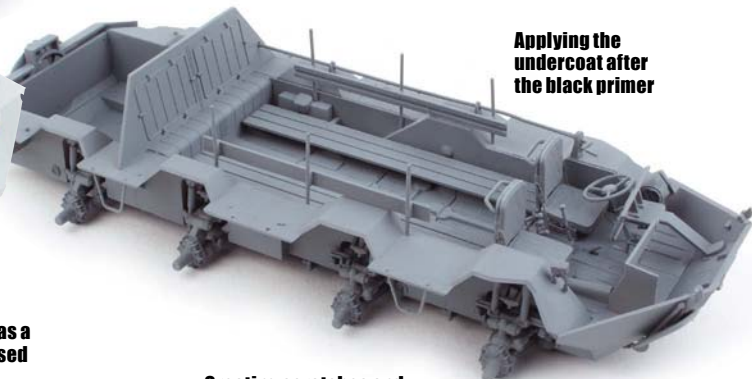
Adding the seats in the main compartment



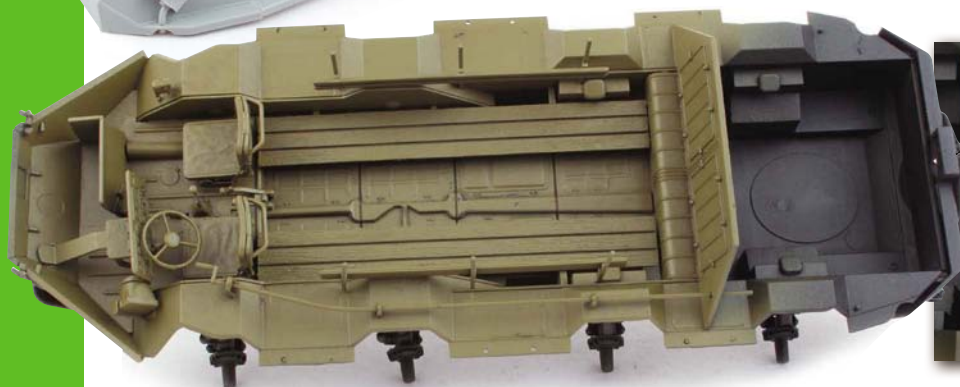
The suspension is superbly detailed, top marks Trumpeter



Adding the canvas guides on the upper hull



Applying the undercoat after the black primer



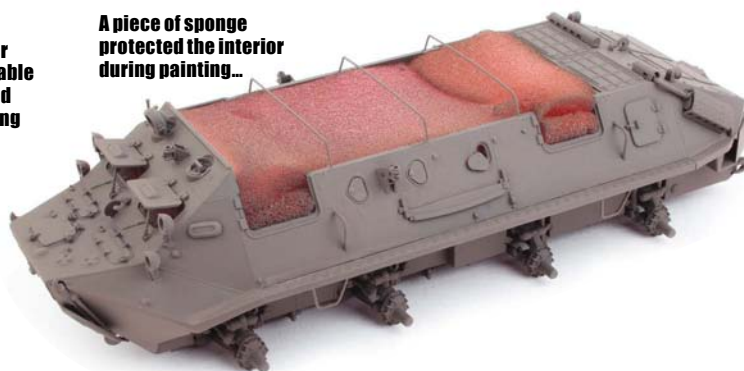
The interior colour was a lightened shade as used on the exterior

Creating scratches and chips on the seats...



...together with suitable stains and weathering

A piece of sponge protected the interior during painting...



...and here is the finished effect



Adding weathering to the hull using different oil colours

The fit of the suspension arms is solid to the hull, but you do need to align the fragile drive shafts up correctly before you finally glue them in place (although you can't really see them once the wheels are on). The steering components can be built in such a way so that the front wheels can be turned to give a little more articulation to the finished model, just remember that the front four wheels need to be turned, not just the front two. Finally the wheel drums and shock absorbers can be added to complete the suspension components. Finally the rear and front plates can be added and the details to them from both plastic and etch.

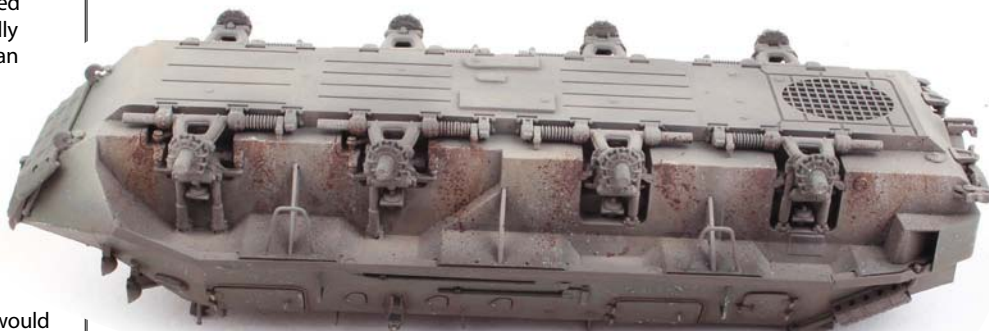
With the lower hull complete, work turned to the interior of the lower hull, and here I found a couple of places that needed to be filled before the insides went in. I wasn't completely sure at this point if the filler would be seen, but better safe than sorry! Detailing starts with the front and rear floors, and the addition of some of the smaller gear handles. I guess the front section of the interior is the same for all versions and the rear part may change, a good move by Trumpeter allowing for easy manufacture of the various versions of the BTR-60. Next to go in are the seats, which are of multi-part construction and based on the few pictures I could find, very well detailed, they sit on a set of etched runners which have a couple of locating holes in them to assist in helping everything line up. More detail is then added to the front driver's section before the

rear crew benches are added; I found it easier to glue the carriers in place on the benches before securing them to the interior sides.

The rear wall section of the interior was then glued into place, and I have to say the fit of all these parts was exceptional. Finally the bench seat backs and their supports were glued into place, and construction then moved to the upper hull. A mixture of etched parts and plastic pieces go into the insides of the upper

as I planned to replace them with some aftermarket ones later. I also replaced the kits canvas carriers over the main section with some new ones made from brass rod, as I felt it was easier to do this and it gave added strength. A little bit of filler was required on the exhaust covers, but this was mainly due to a little over-excessive cleaning up of the parts, than the actual fit.

With the upper hull complete, it was back



The lower hull being suitable 'muddied'

hull, which creates a nice busy looking interior. I left the clear parts for the windscreens off at this point and moved on to the upper hull exterior. The mountings for the lights are all produced in the supplied etch and needed to be bent and formed into shape before being attached to the hull. I decided I wanted the armoured windows over the windscreens to be in the open position so they were attached accordingly. Further hatch covers were then glued in place together with a multitude of small lifting hooks and catches. I had planned on showing a couple of the crew access doors in the open position, so had to create some simple hinges out of plastic card as the kit ones only allow you to glue them in the closed position, not a big deal and simple to do. I also left one of the gun ports on the side in the open position for variety. As with any build, the trick is to start at one point, usually the front, and work your way around the hull adding all the various components as you go.

The exhausts and covers were then added to the rear, and they have a couple of very nicely moulded clips on them, well done to Trumpeter for adding such fine detail to a plastic kit! I glued the front lights into place on their etched carriers but left off the lenses

to the lower hull to add the detail for the amphibious propulsion system at the rear. I glued all of this in place but left the access door slightly apart so it could be seen on the finished model. Finally I added the crew steps to the sides of the lower hull. The wheels are made of rubber tyres glued to plastic hubs, (there are a few resin replacements available should you so wish to swap them), and I also built up the main armament. With all the parts now built I was able to test fit the whole model, and at this point I hadn't glued the upper and lower hull together so I could paint the interior.

I then separated it into its component parts and gave a basecoat of grey, which allowed me to check for any discrepancies, and once happy a black undercoat was added. I only had limited references but concluded that this earlier version would have an interior colour similar to the exterior rather than the grey seen on later covered versions. With this in mind and wanting to have a slight difference in appearance between the interior and exterior, I used a lighter green, and this was sprayed over the whole interior of both the upper and lower hull and once dry was sealed with a coat of satin varnish. A light wash was introduced to



Some spent shell casings add interest on the exterior...



RUSSIAN BTR-60P

Scale 1:35 / Armoured Personnel Carrier



...and the interior

add some depth to the detail, before scratches and wear and tear were created. This was done by sponging on some dark grey in areas that would naturally be worn by the crew, and then complementing this with a lighter green painted on with a small brush to create a more realistic worn effect. Finally some pigments and oil paints added some general dirt and grime.

The seats were painted in a suitable leather hue and other small details picked out. Then the upper and lower hulls were glued together, held in place with tape until dry. At this point I had to add some filler around the front join and bow plane to get a complete seal between the two sections. The painted interior was then sealed off, and the area that had been filled and sanded was sprayed again with black undercoat for a uniform finish. Once the undercoat was dry, around twenty-four hours, the model was sprayed with a coat of Tamiya

Khaki Drab, as I find this is a great base for creating a faded look. With the base colour dry and sealed with a coat of satin varnish a light wash of Sepia oil paint added in some much needed shadow, and this was left for forty-eight hours to dry.

The sponge seal was then removed, so that I could ensure that I hadn't missed any areas during the initial painting. Then I set about adding some tonal effects using oil paints. Placing dots of oil colour randomly around the model before blending them together using a flat brush damp with thinner worked well here. With these effects fully dry, I went back over the model with a suitable brown shadow colour around some of the detail, again using an oil paint. This was then blended back with a flat brush damp with thinners, and any excess removed with a clean brush. Some general scratches were then added using a lighter colour, which was also used to pick out some of the smaller nut and bolt details.

The lower hull was suitably weathered by building up using various weathering enamels, and utilising using various techniques,

including blending lines of colour, one on top of the other and flicking the colours onto the model using a small brush and tooth pick. I wasn't completely sold on the effect, so I then mixed some household filler with the various colour effects and repeated the process. Once I was happy with how this turned out, the whole process was repeated on the wheels before they were attached to the hull. The upper hull then received some light weathering to complement the lower hull effects, but I purposely kept them low key so as not to completely overwhelm the entire model.

With the bulk of the model complete, I turned to adding some more details. The exhausts were painted and weathered in a suitable rust colour, then highlighted with pigments for a more natural appearance. I glued the doors in their open position and added some spent shells and casings around the front of the vehicle for effect. Some additional ammunition boxes were scratchbuilt and glued into the interior with more spent casings and a couple of water bottles for added interest. Finally 'Little Cars' lenses were added to the lights and the spotlight to complete the model, giving the finished kit a battle weary look. [Military](#)



The upper hull then received some light weathering to complement the lower hull effects



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RV05138

1:400 - Soviet Submarine
Typhoon Class



German military car, Type 170V,
Tourenwagen with crew, WW II era.



German & British Infantrymen, WW I era.



German Paratroopers, WW II era.

MAS35113

German Military Car Type 170V
Tourenwagen With Crew WWII

MAS35116

German & British Infantrymen WWI

MAS35145

German Paratroopers, WWII



MNGTS-025

1:35 - Israeli Merkava Mk.3D

Late LIC MBT

MNGTS-024

1:35 - French AUF1 TA 155mm

Self Propelled Howitzer

MNGTS-023

1:35 Russian ZSU-23-4 Shilka

Self-propelled Anti-aircraft

Gun

MNGSS-010

1:35 - D9R Armored Bulldozer

With Slat Armor



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1:35 - Vickers Medium Tank
MKI

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1:35 - French Saint-Chamond
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HobbyBoss

Soviet T-35 Heavy Tank (Late)

Manufacturer: HobbyBoss

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded with etch

Kit Number: 83844

Price: TBC



GAZ-AAA Truck

Manufacturer: HobbyBoss

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded with etch

Kit Number: 83837

Price: TBC



US GMC CCKW-352 Machine Gun Turret Version

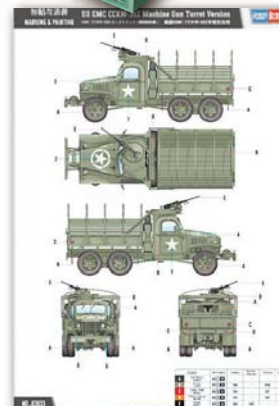
Manufacturer: HobbyBoss

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded with etch

Kit Number: 83833

Price: TBC



German Pz.Kpfw/Pz.BfWg 38(t) Ausf. B

Manufacturer: HobbyBoss

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded with etch

Kit Number: 80138

Price: TBC



Masterbox

Tankmen of World War One Era

Manufacturer: Masterbox

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded

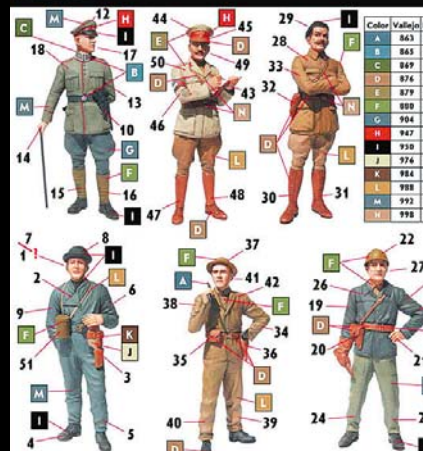
Kit Number: 35134

Price: TBC



Tankmen of WWI era

MB №MB35134 Tankmer



MiniArt

USV-BR 76mm Gun Mod.1941 w/Limber and Crew

Manufacturer: MiniArt

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded with etch

Kit Number: 35129

Price: TBC



SU-122 Initial Production w/Full Interior

Manufacturer: MiniArt

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded with etch

Kit Number: 35175

Price: TBC



GAZ-05-193 Staff Bus

Manufacturer: MiniArt

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded with etch

Kit Number: 35156

Price: TBC

BZ-38 Refueller

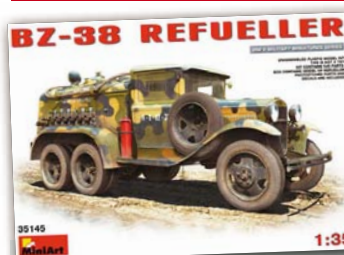
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Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded with etch

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RULES OF ENGAGEMENT hürtgen

**KONSTANTINOS TSIOMPRIS
GUIDES YOU STEP-BY-STEP
THROUGH HIS BATTLE OF HÜRTGEN
FOREST, AUTUMN 1944 DIORAMA**

THE BATTLE OF HÜRTGEN FOREST WAS FOUGHT FROM 19 SEPTEMBER TO 16 DECEMBER 1944 BETWEEN US and German forces in the wooded area of the Belgian–German border. It was the longest battle on German soil during World War II, and was the

longest single battle the US Army had ever fought. I wanted to depict a scene from these encounters, and chose to show a Sherman Jumbo M4A3E2 attacking German soldiers near to their 'Dragon's Teeth' lines. *Military*



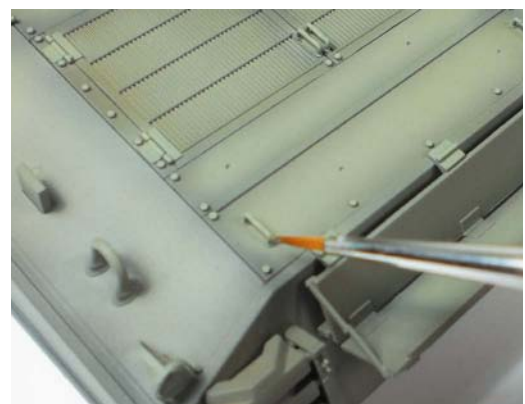
Here we have the Sherman Jumbo M4A3E2, which in this case is the amazing Tasca kit, and the first job is to add a primer coat using AMMO of MIG Surface Primer



Now it's time to add the Olive Drab colour to the model, and here I used Lifecolor paints, adding highlights and shadows as I went along



Lifecolor Light Green can now be used to paint the raised details, such as bolt heads and handles





A SHERMAN JUMBO M4A3E2 ATTACKING GERMAN
SOLDIERS NEAR TO THEIR 'DRAGON'S TEETH' LINES



The decals can now be applied and the chipping process can begin. The sponge-technique used here gives some very realistic results



Time now to add a little white camouflage, and for good results use AK Interactive Heavy Chipping Fluid, followed by thinned Lifecolor White and once dry, areas of colour can be carefully removed



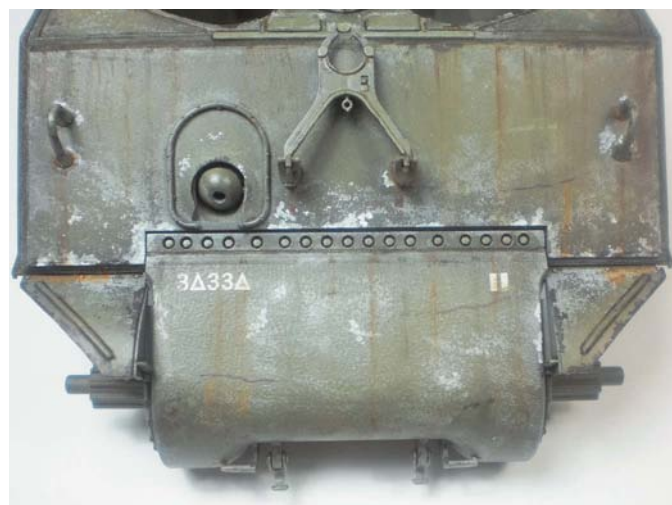
MODELLERS MASTERCLASS

Sponsored By: Hobbylink Japan / www.hlj.com

Hobbylink
Japan



Pin-washes now follow a coat of gloss, and then some dot filtering to complete the look



We can now add some more effects using AK Interactive 'Streaking Grime'



Time now for some mud splashes, using more AK Interactive products



The tracks can be suitably painted and fixed to the model and then treated with several pigments and some straw for added interest



Fuel stains can now be added...



...and a graphite pencil will create some metallic edges



Here is the finished tank!



The base can be created using some foam, an old picture frame, plaster and scenic groundwork products. Cut the foam to shape, cover with plaster and while still wet add the various elements



When dry, paint the groundwork to suit – I used Lifecolor paints



Some 'Dragons Teeth' from Add-On Parts can now be primed and painted



Grass and leaves from both Plus Model and Joefix are ideal here



Here we have the finished base



MODELLERS MASTERCLASS

Sponsored By: Hobbylink Japan / www.hlj.com

Hobbylink
Japan

The figures came from MiniArt and Verlinden with Hornet heads and were painted with Lifecolor shades



Their weapon straps can be scratchbuilt, and don't forget to add dirt on their clothes



All of the elements can now be brought together into an exciting scene



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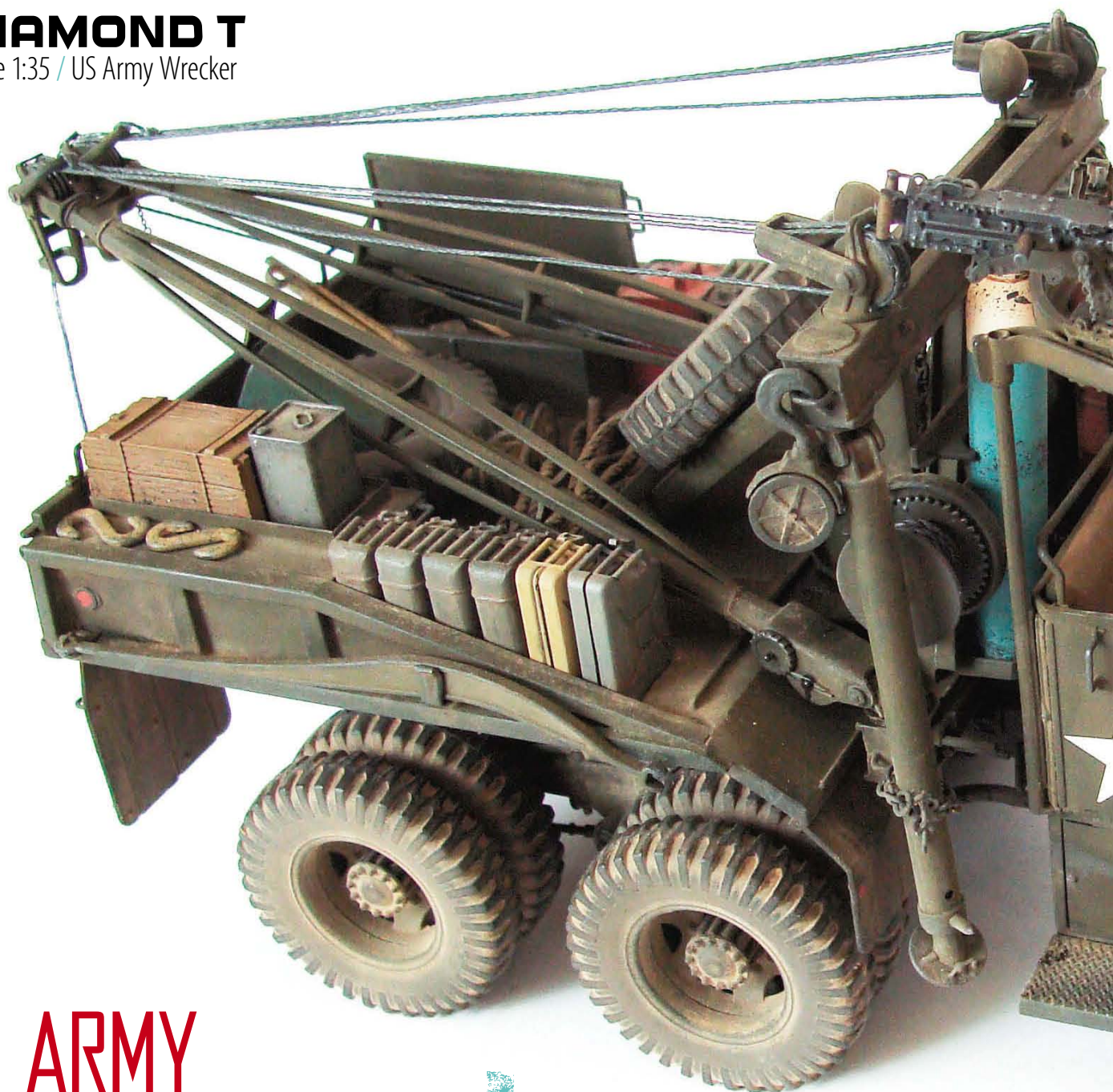
Scan to see
Snow video





DIAMOND T

Scale 1:35 / US Army Wrecker



US ARMY Wrecker

**JACOB HEDERSTIERNA-JOHNSEN DETAILS THE 1:35
MIRROR MODELS DIAMOND T**

OPEN TOP

MIRROR MODELS

I'VE ALWAYS LIKED 'WRECKERS', AND I ALWAYS REALLY WANTED TO BUILD ONE, BUT AS THEY ONLY WERE AVAILABLE AS VERY EXPENSIVE

resin kits I had to pass. But that was before Mirror Models got into the game. They have in a relatively short time released a number of different Allied soft skins, and amongst them, not one, but two

American Diamond T Wreckers - one open topped and one with the hard top. I chose to build the open top version, as I think it's the coolest looking of the two.

I must admit that my enthusiasm dropped quite a bit when I opened the box and found it stuffed with sprues! It looked very much like an early kit from Eastern Europe as the sprues themselves were enormous and the parts were often very tiny. However, on closer examination I found most of them had serious sink



KIT DATA

US Diamond T 969A Wrecker

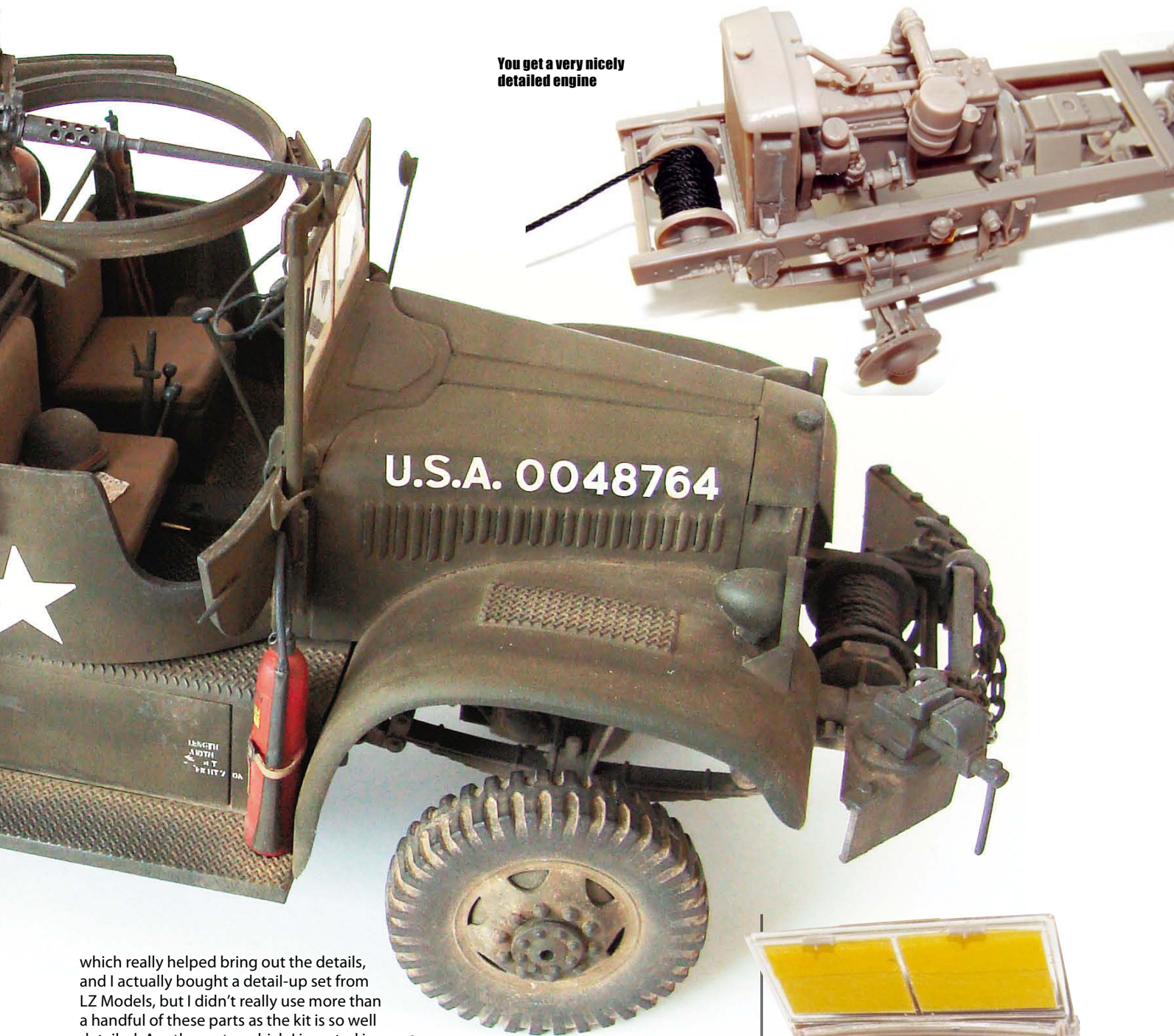
Manufacturer: Mirror Models

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded with etch

marks and mould lines, which removal and clean-up of took up a major part of the construction time. But as I began the build, I became quite fond of it. Mirror Models also provide a fairly large amount of etch,

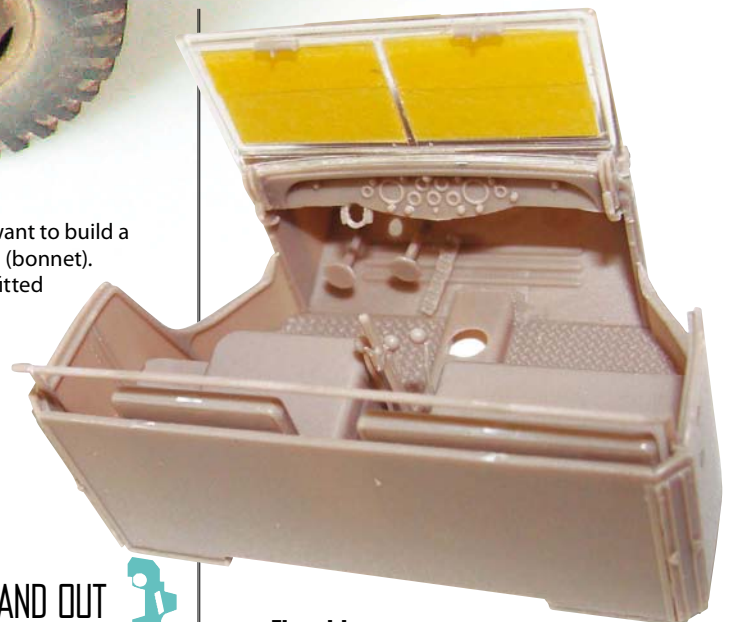
You get a very nicely detailed engine



which really helped bring out the details, and I actually bought a detail-up set from LZ Models, but I didn't really use more than a handful of these parts as the kit is so well detailed. Another extra which I invested in was a heavy machine gun mounting ring, fitted on the passenger side of the driver's cabin. This was a Tamiya accessory kit for their GMC Truck, but as these mounts were a standard they fitted a number of different vehicles. I had to move the front post by 5mm to make it fit the kit, but everything else was good. The .50 cal heavy machine gun came from Verlinden, but I used a metal barrel from JB Models, for added realism. The kit was built in sub-assemblies, these being the chassis with the driver's cabin, the boom, the crane and the cargo bay. The kit comes

with a nice engine, if you want to build a vehicle with an open hood (bonnet). The wheels were also not fitted at this point, as they are much easier to paint and weather separately.

With construction complete I primed the entire model with Citadel Chaos Black and then added an Olive Drab base coat using Tamiya colours.



The cab is very workmanlike



IT'S ALWAYS NICE WHEN YOU CAN MAKE A BUILD STAND OUT FROM THE CROWD





DIAMOND T

Scale 1:35 / US Army Wrecker



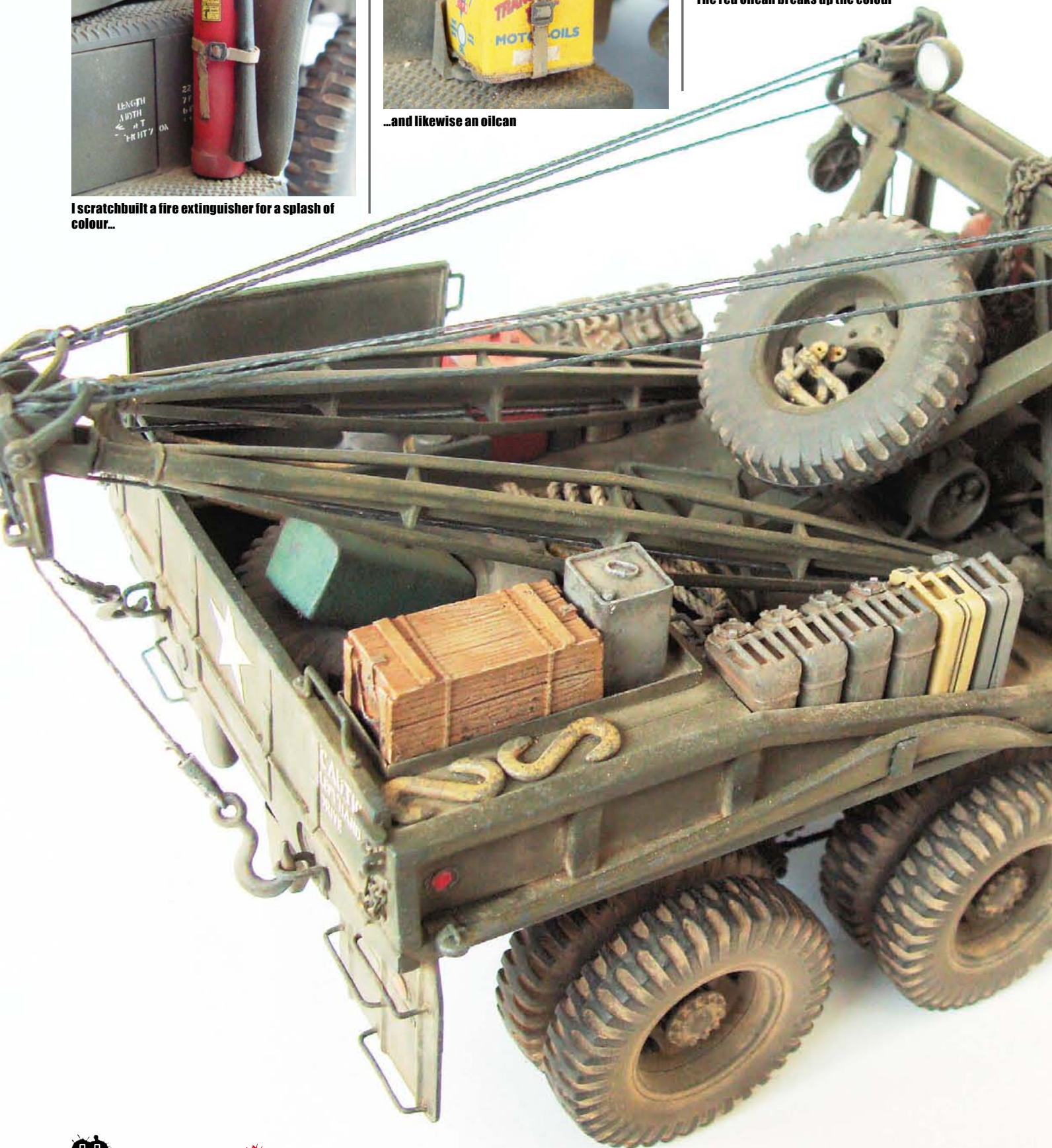
I scratchbuilt a fire extinguisher for a splash of colour...



...and likewise an oilcan



The red oilcan breaks up the colour





Equipment behind the cab



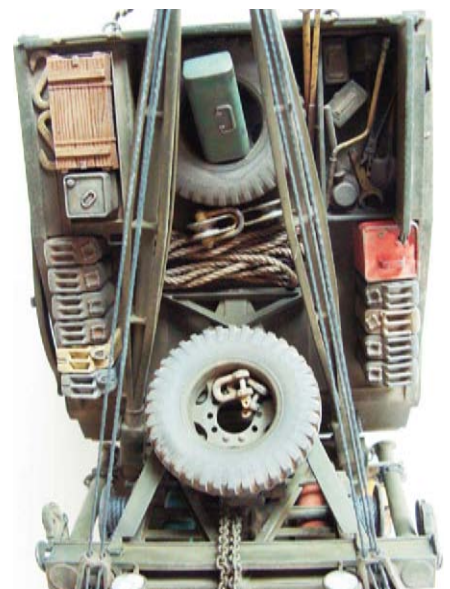
I added some chain to the front fender



Everything else was painted with Humbrol colours. Weathering was done by using several dark oil washes/filters with oils, for bringing out all the smaller details, such as nuts and bolts; I used a black pin-wash and various pigments for the dust. For rust and dust, I used different pastels. It's always nice you can make a build stand out from the crowd. Doing something a bit by adding extras or removing various parts can achieve this. I chose to add some extra details, such as a piece of chain on the winch behind the front bumper. Also many carried a fairly large fire extinguisher behind the right front fender. This I had to completely scratchbuild, using odd items like a Nebelwerfer rocket, some plastic tube, copper wire and stretched sprue. I also exchanged one of the US jerry cans with a commercial oil tin, which like the red fire extinguisher added colour to the build, and thereby creates a focal point. My references also showed that these vehicles carried a lot of different items in the cargo compartment, so I added lots of jerry cans, both US and German, some oil tins and all kinds of tools, tool boxes and a heavy towing rope. I built one of the large



The .50 cal was from Verlinden with a JB Models barrel



The crane is very well detailed

storage boxes open, and filled in both tools and cal. 50 ammunition boxes. Some of the tools are from various German vehicles, as I thought that these would have been handy when moving enemy vehicles from the former battlefield to a collection point somewhere. To create a sort of 'lived in' look, I added some personal gear on the seats in the driver's cabin. I also placed some spent cartridges from the cal. 50, which gives the impression of a fighting vehicle, and not just a service truck. As said before, this was at times a hard and troublesome build and it really challenged my skills - not least my patience, but when I got used to it, I achieved a very pleasing result. **Military**



AMX-10RCR

Scale 1:35 / French Light Reconnaissance Vehicle

KIT DATA

French AMX-10RCR

Manufacturer: Tiger Model

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded

Kit Number: 4602



I HAVE BECOME QUITE A FAN OF THE 'BLACK AND WHITE'
PRE-SHADING TECHNIQUE





RECONNAISSANCE AND FIRE SUPPORT french style

IVAN MOMCILOVIC PUTS THE 1:35 TIGER MODEL AMX-10RCR INTO
A DIORAMA SETTING

THE AMX-10RCR TIGER MODEL

THE AMX-10RCR IS A FRENCH BUILT LIGHT RECONNAISSANCE VEHICLE, A HEAVILY ARMED VERSION OF THE AMX-10P AND CURRENTLY IN service in the French Army and those of Morocco and Qatar. Tiger Model is a new name in the marketplace, and their recent AMX-10RCR is a very nice kit with some excellent details and went together easily with just a touch of filler needed here and there. So I was soon ready to paint, and I have to admit that I have become quite a fan of the 'black and white' pre-shading technique, and with careful application the final result

looks like colour modulation, but in my opinion, much more realistic. For the best results use a light source as this will give you the perfect definition as to which parts need to be darker and which ones lighter. The tyres were painted with the Ammo of MIG 'Rubber and Tyres' shade, followed by a light layer of Mid-Brown, and once set they were dry brushed to add highlights.

Next I used some Vallejo Black Acrylic Wash, to pick out the details, and to add some oil stains and streaking effects and blended them in. This was followed by a little light chipping using a fine brush. The

'real' vehicle is painted in a NATO three-tone scheme, but I noticed that the French Army use slightly lighter shades, so I turned to the Ammo of MIG French Army Colours 1914-1940 set! So first I applied the Brown, then masked off the vehicle for the

Green, followed by more masking for some Tamiya NATO Black. The tools were painted with various shades, and after adding coat of gloss decals were applied and sealed with another gloss coat. The smaller details were then painted in and were highlighted with brighter shades of the camouflage colours. I then added a Brown wash as a filter, and to simulate some mud effects I used Vallejo's 'Dark Earth Texture' brushed on randomly, where mud would accumulate. While this was drying I began to weather the wheels using various dust shades and mud tones. The final result was very realistic. Next some thinned Black was used as another wash to highlight the details, and bring the model to life.

Scratches were then added to the side armour, the result no doubt of driving through woods and rough terrain. Then some Ammo of MIG 'Streaking Effects' was added to the sloping sides of the vehicle including the turret. This was then blended in until I achieved the desired look.



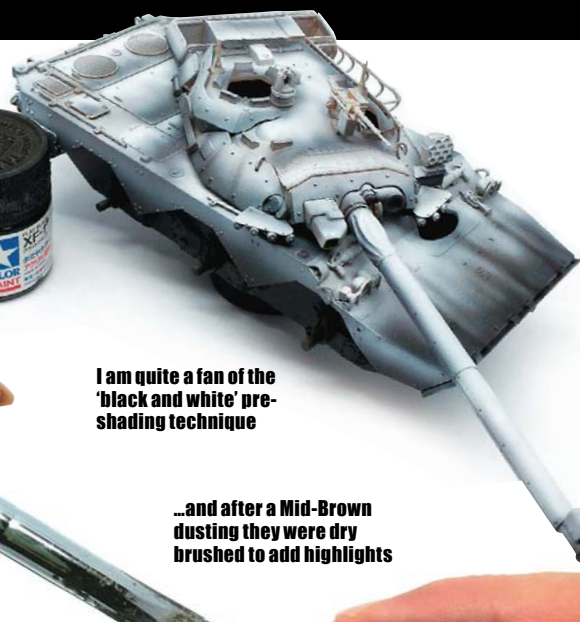


AMX-10RCR

Scale 1:35 / French Light Reconnaissance Vehicle



The Tiger Models kit builds very nicely



I am quite a fan of the 'black and white' pre-shading technique



The tyres were painted with the Ammo of MIG 'Rubber and Tyres'...



...and after a Mid-Brown dusting they were dry brushed to add highlights



Some light chipping being added



For the NATO camouflage I used the lighter shades contained in the Ammo of MIG French Army Colours 1914-1940



Painting the tools



For the Black shade I used the Tamiya NATO colour





The smaller details being painted in



Adding dust to the wheels



A thinned Black wash brought the model to life



Adding scratches to the side armour



Adding and blending Ammo of MIG 'Streaking effects'



The completed look of the AMX



AMX-10RCR

Scale 1:35 / French Light Reconnaissance Vehicle



The base was Styrofoam covered with DAS Clay and suitably painted



For the 'puddles' I used coloured Vallejo 'Still Water'



To add a winter feel I used some Vallejo 'Snow Foam' and baking soda to represent fresh snow



Then some Ammo of MIG 'European Earth Pigment' was mixed with enamel thinner and added to the sides. When dry it was again blended in, and some Ammo of MIG 'Rainmarks' completed the look. All that was needed now was to add some engine exhaust staining and some lubricant and fuel spills on the rear deck, and a little 'crew-wear' on the turret.

For the base I used an old picture frame and built up the sides using balsa wood and filled it with Styrofoam and DAS clay, which I shaped to suit the look I was after. This was then painted using various Vallejo shades before I decided on the next step – adding some large puddles! For this I chose Vallejo Still Water, mixed with a little Russian Green and Uniform Green. I did this using a few layers to get the right effect. For the crew I used an excellent French AFV Set, Djiti's, suitably painted using Vallejo shades (pic 77). Then I finished off the base using some painted-up gravel, some Noch grass and to add a winter feel I used some Vallejo 'Snow Foam' and baking soda to represent fresh snow. *Military*

My thanks to Hobby Easy who provided the build sample, and to all at inscale.org



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SM.01 Fish Submarine

The SM Series launches with a most unusual and unique project, 1/35 FichtenFoo's Fantastical Fish-shaped Submersible -- for a few good reasons. One of the main goals for these new SM titles is the further expansion of RSP into the larger hobby as a whole. Science Fiction, Aviation, Construction Equipment and RailRoading projects, even Racing subjects will be presented throughout this new on-going series, plus they will also cover Military subjects too, often singular models not destined for other RSP titles. The books are open to All Scales - All Eras - All Subjects, which allows the series author Michael Rinaldi to tackle a greater variety of topics and finishes unlike anything he has attempted before. A core premise of the new series is to explore and redefine artistic and creative finishes for each subject. The first 10 SM Series titles will include science fiction robots/mecha/Gundam, WWII aircraft, civilian trucks, even a WWI gun just to list a few...so much cool stuff is coming. It will be a fun ride!

SM.01 Fish Submarine is an ideal starting point to illustrate this concept because the model is defined by its turn-of-the-20th Century styling, yet the author has tackled the paint job with a more contemporary science fiction based camo scheme that creates a wholly original final result.

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GERMAN FIRE breather

LEIGH JONES PRODUCES A 1:35 FLAMMPANZER DIORAMA USING THE BRONCO KIT

FLAME THROWER BRONCO



DURING WORLD WAR II BOTH ALLIED AND AXIS FORCES EXPERIMENTED WITH FLAME THROWING TANKS, usually for use either for clearing stubborn fortifications or as a fear tactic. These were produced in small numbers and had limited success due to their very specific job role, and also the fact that their high explosive tanks quickly became targets for all enemy forces. The Panzerkampfwagen II (F1) Sd.kfz.122 or 'Flammpanzer' was created from the Panzer II Ausf.D by adding a flamethrower on each side of the

track guards, each with their own fuel tank hidden under the armour on each fender; supplementary fuel could also be carried in a UE Trailer towed behind.

This release from Bronco really holds up their reputation for exceptional kits, as the attention to detail and the engineering of this kit are without fault. However, this one is not for the beginner, though due to the amount of detail present, as where other manufacturers would give you one crudely modelled part, Bronco give you a multi-part

KIT DATA

Panzerkampfwagen II (F1) Sd.kfz.122 w/UE Trailer

Manufacturer: Bronco

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded with etch

Kit Number: 35090





sub-assembly! This does mean that construction can be slow going at times but the finished article is worth the wait. Some of the highlights you will find in the kit are the easy-to-assemble individual link tracks, the plethora of jerry cans and barrels and the nice use of etch to add that extra fine level of detail where needed.

Once built, I primed the model with Mr Finishing Surfacer 1500 Black #SF288 before mixing up some Hobby Color Light Grey #324 with a touch of Hobby Color Blue #54 and Hobby Color Black/Green #65 to make a more interesting hue as a basecoat.



THIS RELEASE FROM BRONCO REALLY HOLDS UP THEIR REPUTATION FOR EXCEPTIONAL KITS



Apart from painting in the details and adding a bit of Light and Dark shading with my Aztek airbrush, I didn't spend too much more time here, as the rest of the colouration was achieved with oils. Although I do like working with oils I rarely use them as I am too impatient to wait days for them to dry before moving on, but on this model I had received a sample of Uschi van der Rosten's 'Blitz Dry' which is intended to reduce

drying time from days to hours. I simply added a couple of drops into with my oils and painted as usual, which in this instance meant using White, Light Brown and Dark Brown to fade the paint over the entire surface, before streaking the vertical areas.

The next morning I sealed everything in with a matt coat before carrying on. After a quick fine layer of Hobby Color Sand #346, shot through my airbrush, I used a mixture of various pigments built up in layers over the running gear, and the final step was to add in a bit of chipping to the upper surfaces. To display





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#346



Hobby Color Black/
Green #65



Hobby Color
White #1



Uschi van der Rosten

Uschi van der
Rosten 'Blitz Dry'



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the tank and its trailer I wanted to build a simple base, which related to the tank's purpose, and wanted a landscape burned by the Flammpanzer's progress. To this end I used some household filler spread over a small MDF base and inserted some cut-down plant stems into the wet filler as well as a sprinkle of various dirt, sand and other detritus. Once dry this was airbrushed with Hobby Color Black/Green #65 and given a dusting of Hobby Color Light Grey #324 and Hobby Color White #1 to replicate a recently burnt area, whilst the end of the base was treated to various grasses to show an unaffected area. Overall with the heavy weathering on the tank and the partly burnt-out base I think this has turned out to be a very atmospheric diorama. *Military*



SMMI CENTRE

As always it is our intention to provide our readership with the most up-to-date and comprehensive survey of the industry and its impending releases as we can supply in print, and to this end we rely largely on contributions and information received from outside sources. In the interests of accuracy, SMMI invites all manufacturers and producers of kits, accessories, conversions, decals and books to keep us informed of their current and proposed future releases, and let us have this information, along with any high resolution images, and we will be glad to include them. Bearing in mind the more the information supplied, the more column space their products will occupy in the SMMI News Section. Any press releases, news updates, product details and bulletins should be sent direct to the Editor at andyevans@sampublications.com for inclusion in the earliest possible issue of the magazine.

As ever there are plenty of new products around to edify and excite, so without further ado...here is the news!

Andy Renshaw

Tiger Model

1:35 Panhard 12.7mm M2
1:35 AMX-10 SEPAR
1:35 AMX-30 Brenus
1:35 Nagmachon with Slat Armour
● www.tiger-model.com



ON THE SIDE

Drakkar Models

DM065 - 1:35
Magnet Line
Armoured Cupola

● www.drakkar-models.com



Mirage Hobby

Mirage Hobby has a new range of 1:35 kits that come with glue and paint

835061 - Bofors 37mm
Anti-tank Gun

835094 - 7TP Light Tank - Twin-Turret

835093 - Tanquette TK5-B

835092 - 7TP Light Tank - Single-Turret

835091 - 'Kubus' Armoured Car

● www.mhshop.pl



Roden

731 1:72 British
Armoured Car - 1920 Pattern Mk.I

● www.roden.eu



Brach Model

Something to please fans of Italian armour!

BM131 Carro Armato M13/40 1° Series, a full resin kit with aluminium barrel, etched parts and decals

BM132 Carro Comando M40, resin kit with etched parts and decals
BM133 Interior Set for Carro Comando M40

BM134 Carro Armato M13/40 2° series, resin kit with aluminium barrel, etched parts and decals

BM135 Carro Comando M41, full resin kit with etched parts and decals

BM136 Interior set for Carro Comando M41 Interior Set

BM137 Interior set for Semovente da 75/18 M40/41

● www.brachmodel.it



ON THE SIDE

Dragon

Our friends at Dragon have combined their excellent Pz IV and Panther Ausf F kits for this variant, where the turret from the Panther is placed on an Ausf H chassis.

Also look out for
3553 - 1:35 M60 Patton

• www.dragon-models.com



ICM

35537 - Type 320 (W142) Saloon, World War II German Staff Car

• www.icm.com.ua

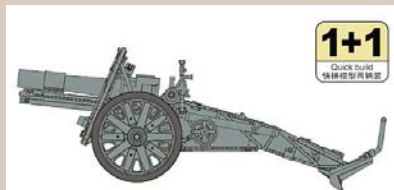


VT Models

Some really neat 1:72 stuff here!

P572 I90 - SiG.33 I5 cm
P572 089 - Munitionsschlepper auf Pz.Kpfw.I Ausf.A with trailer
P572 078 - BTR-60 PB

• www.vt-models.cz



Brassica Models

A COUPLE OF NEW 1:72 SETS HERE.

Tatra 148 VNM Truck - this resin kit comes with etched parts and vacuformed windows
Europallets - these can be used as a load for the 148, any other, truck, or in a diorama.

• www.brassicamodels.com



Bronco Models

AB3575 - 1:35 German World War II 200ltr Oil Drums

AB3576 - 1:35 German World War II 20ltr Jerry Cans

• www.bronco-models.com



Griffon

1:35 ETCH A-PLenty HERE!

L35029 - 7.5cm KwK 37 L/24&k51 L/24 Aluminum Barrel with Rifling for Pz.Kpfw.IV Ausf.B/C/D/E/FI and Pz.Kpfw.III Ausf.N & Sd.Kfz.234/3 and Sd.Kfz.250/8 Dragon kits

MA 30059 - S.Mi.35 Anti-Personal Mine Discharger for Tiger I Early/Middle Production

L35A140 - Standard Type Front/Rear Mud Flaps and Standard Type Hull Side Skirts for Tiger I Early/Middle/Late Production Dragon kits

BL35035 - German Sd.Kfz.I81 Pz.Kpfw. VI Ausf.E Tiger I Early Production Metal Smoke Grenade Discharger Tube with Metal Grenade and I S-Mine Discharger Tube for Dragon kit

L35056 - German Sd.Kfz.I81 Pz.Kpfw. VI Ausf.E Tiger I Early Production Standard e Front/Rear Mud Flaps and Full Set of Standard Hull Side Skirts for Dragon kits

L35059 - German Sd.Kfz.I81 Pz.Kpfw. VI Ausf.E Tiger I Middle and Late Production Front/Rear Mud Flaps and Standard Hull Side Skirts for Dragon kits

L35A141 - Heat Shields of Exhaust Stacks for German Tiger I Initial/Early/Middle/Late Production North



Africa Vehicles for Dragon and Tamiya kits

L35A142 - Universal Mounting Brackets and Clamps for On-Vehicle-Tools with Standard Type Heat Shields of Exhaust Stacks for Tiger I Early/Middle/Late Production for Dragon kits

L35A143 - Towing Cable and Track Changing Cables for Tiger I Initial/Early/Middle/Late Production for Dragon kits

BPL35036 - WWII German Jagdpanzer IV L/48 Late Production with Zimmerit Coating Premium Edition Commander Version for Dragon kits

L35058 - Jagdpanzer IV L/48 Late Production with Zimmerit Coating Mounting Brackets for Hull Side Armour Skirts for Dragon kits

L35057 - Sd.Kfz.234/3 Heavy Armoured Vehicle 7.5cm K51 L/24 Aluminum Barrel with Rifling for Dragon kits

• www.griffonmodel.com



Modellers Social Club Model of the Month



SMMI IS PROUD TO SPONSOR THE MODELLERS SOCIAL CLUB 'MODEL OF THE MONTH' COMPETITION AND THIS MONTH'S WINNER IS OUR old friend and master modeller Bill Punk and his build of the USS Texas

Bill says: "This build uses Trumpeter's 1:350 kit #05340 along with a Master turned aluminum and brass barrel set. Finished primarily with Model Master enamels, including both airbrushed and hand painted details, it features the US Navy's 'Measure 22 Combination' of 5-N Navy Blue, 5-H Haze Gray, and 20-B Deck Blue, which the USS Texas wore for most of her time during World War II and while serving with the Atlantic Fleet. Built mostly out of the box, approximately 200 man-hours went into all of her various decks and details in order to bring this grand old lady to life once more!"

Congratulations Bill, a stunning model!

● www.modelerssocialclub.proboards.com



ON THE SIDE

Tamiya

348 – 1:35 Russian Self-Propelled Gun SU-76M with Crew

• www.tamiya.com



Takom

A trio of 1:35 AMX's from the ever-improving Takom stable!



2036 – AMX 13/75

2037 – AMX 13/90

2038 – AMX13/75 with SS-II ATGM

• www.takom-world.com



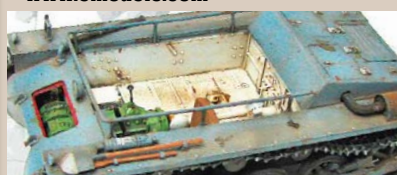
Hakata Paint

NEW SET TO INSPIRE!



HTK-A537 – World War II AFV Interiors Set - contains a careful selection of colours including HTK-A184 Interior Buff, HTK-A164 Panzer Dunkelgrau Base, HTK-A175 Red Primer Base, HTK-A185 Gearbox Green, HTK-A078 Aluminium and HTK-A186 - Leather Brown

• www.emodels.com



Echelon

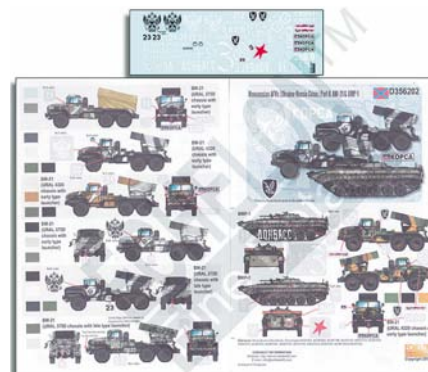
D356200 - Novorossian AFVs (Ukraine - Russia Crisis) #4 - BMP-2

D356202 - Novorossian AFVs (Ukraine - Russia Crisis) #6 - BM-21 and BMP-1

D356203 - Novorossian AFVs (Ukraine - Russia Crisis) #7 - BMP-1 and BMP-2

D356204 - Novorossian AFVs (Ukraine - Russia Crisis) #8 - BTR-80 and BMP-2

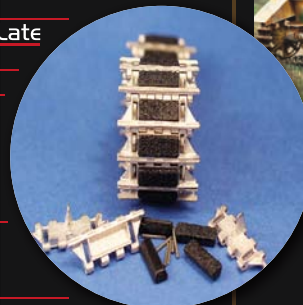
• www.echelonfd.com



Masterclub

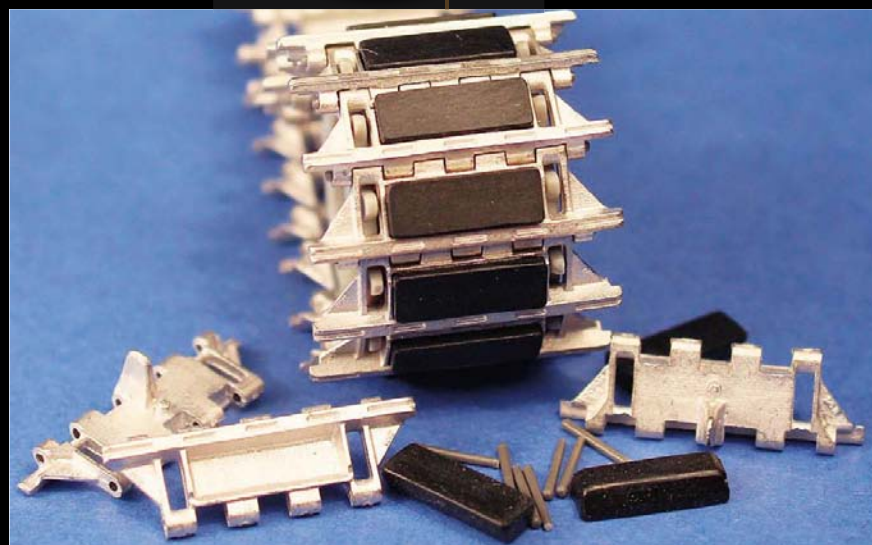
New 1:35 modern and World War II Subjects from this source.

MTL-35035 T-35
MTL-35037 B-4
MTL-35038 T-28 Late
MTL-35051 T-64
MTL-35054 IS-4
MTL-35055 T-10
MTL-35056
Object 279
MTL-35069
Panzer II
MTL-35079
Chieftain with New Rubber Pads



MTL-35080 Chieftain with Worn Rubber Pads

• www.masterclub.ru



BSM

1:35 Land Rover Upgrade Set
 ● www.facebook.com/bsmmodels



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Hand picked for 2016

NEW



04936
 Handley Page HALIFAX B Mk.III,
 1:72

NEW TOOL



04921
 BAe Hawk T1 Red Arrows,
 1:72

NEW TOOL



07026/07027
 Porsche 918, 1:24

NEW TOOL



07009
 VW T1 Samba Bus, 1:16

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ON THE SIDE

Figure News

**PRESENTED BY
ANDY RENSHAW**

Its good to end one year and start another on a high note! In the past twelve months manufacturers old and new have produced some stunning figures and busts and we look forward to more of the same in 2016!

D-Day Miniature Studio

35045 - Christmas Truce, 1914
35048 - Polish LWP Officer & Infantryman, Berlin 1945

• www.ddayminiaturestudio.com



Young Miniatures

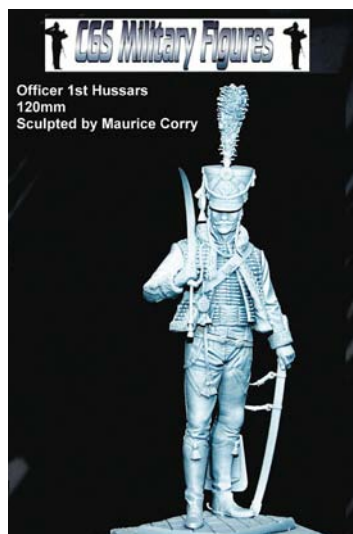
USAAF Fighter Pilot, 1944 - 1:10 bust - cast resin



• www.young-miniatures.com

Heroes and Villains

Officer Continental Army 1779 - 54mm cast resin



CGS

MC-10 - Officer 1st French Hussars - 120mm cast resin Head Set For MC10, with Three Alternative 120mm Heads and Two Plumes and Plaits

• www.cgsmilitaryfigures.co.uk

CGS Military Figures



120mm Head Set Contains 3 heads, for use with MC10 French Hussar (available separately)

www.cgsmilitaryfigures.co.uk



MC10

Evolution Miniatures

35122 - 1:35 Officer NKVD

35123 - 1:35 Clerk

• www.evolution-miniatures.com



El Viejo Dragoon

'Morenos del Rio de la Plata' (Argentina) Battalion 1806, Spain - 54mm white metal
Lieutenant Patria Regiment, 1809 Spain - 54mm white metal
Valencian Volunteer, 1838, Central Army, 1st Carlist War, Spain 1833-40 - 54mm white metal
Ramon Cabrera, Central Army, 1st Carlist War, Spain 1833-40 - 54mm white metal

• www.elviejodragon.com



Minaturas Forte

Spanish Guerrilla 1808 – 75mm cast resin with alternative head

• www.miniaturasfortes.com



Model Cellar

Manfred von Richthofen – 1:24 cast resin

• www.modelcellar.com



Atelier Maket

Desvaux de Saint Maurice 1775 - 1815 – 75mm white metal

• www.casa-della-maket.com



ON THE SIDE

Best Soldiers

The Last Hero - Woodland Indian XVIII - 75mm white metal

• www.bestsoldiers.com



ICM

35566 – Finnish Rifle Man (Winter 1940)

• www.icm.com.ua



Hunikum Miniatures

Here we have two new US Tank Crewmen from World War II

HU-35003 - US Tank

Crewman #1

HU-35004 - US Tank Crewman #2

• www.thebodi.hu



Jeff Shiu Miniatures

Panzer Crew France 1941 (Part II) – 1:16 cast resin

• www.jeffshiu miniatures.com



Tartar Miniatures

Archer, XV Century – 75mm cast resin

• www.tartarminiatures.blogspot.co.uk





ON THE SIDE

Historyx Agents

New at Historyx

Marechal Ney

Manufacturer: Alexandros Models
Scale: 200mm
Kit Type: Cast resin
Kit Number: AXR69
Price: £27.60



Marechal Lannes

Manufacturer: Alexandros Models
Scale: 200mm
Kit Type: Cast resin
Kit Number: AXR70
Price: £41.70



Officer Durham Light Infantry 1915

Manufacturer: Jon Smith Modelbau
Scale: 120mm
Kit Type: Cast resin
Kit Number: JS09DU
Price: £39.95



Manfred von Richthofen, The Red Baron

Manufacturer: Heroes & Villains
Scale: 75mm
Kit Type: Cast resin
Kit Number: FJD00001
Price: £27.10



Infantry Franco Prussian 26 Regiment 1870-71

Manufacturer: Heroes & Villains
Scale: 1:16
Kit Type: Cast resin
Kit Number: FPW00001
Price: £18.05



Lord Lovatt

Manufacturer: RP Models
Scale: 100mm
Kit Type: Cast resin
Kit Number: RPMB-6
Price: £45.00



Archer XV CENTURY

Manufacturer: Tartar Miniatures
Scale: 75mm
Kit Type: Cast resin
Kit Number: TBC
Price: TBC
● www.tartarminiatures.blogspot.co.uk



Swiss in Resin

Swiss Soldier 1942
Manufacturer: Atelier Maket
Scale: 75mm
Kit Type: Cast resin
Kit Number: TBC
Price: TBC
● www.casa-della-maket.com



US Tank Crew Loading

MINIART

Manufacturer: MiniArt
Scale: 1:35
Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded
Kit Number: 35190
Price: TBC

Another very useful set for the US aficionado
● www.miniart.com



New Set FROM Alpine

WSS AFV Crew 44-45 #1
Manufacturer: Alpine Miniatures
Scale: 1:35
Kit Type: Cast resin
Kit Number: 35205
Price: TBC

WSS AFV Crew 44-45 #2
Manufacturer: Alpine Miniatures
Scale: 1:35
Kit Type: Cast resin
Kit Number: 35206
Price: TBC

Also available as a set
35207 - WSS AFV Crew 44-45 Set
(Two Figures)

● www.alpineminiatures.com



US Modellers can buy directly from Alpine
with Free Shipping

● www.alpineminiatures.com/store.html



World War II German King Tiger Commander

S.P.Z.ABT. 503, HUNGARY 1944

LIFE MINIATURES
 Manufacturer: Life Miniatures
 Scale: 1:10
 Kit Type: Cast resin
 Kit Number: LM-BO17
 Price: TBC
 ● www.lifeminatures.com



New From ICM

Moroccan Goumier Rifles (1943)

Manufacturer: ICM
 Scale: 1:35
 Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded
 Kit Number: 35565
 Price: TBC



You can always trust ICM to find something different with their figure sets!
 ● www.icm.com.ua

Sergeant 95th Rifles

MITCHES MILITARY MODELS

Manufacturer: Mitches Military Models
 Scale: 1:9
 Kit Type: Cast resin
 Kit Number: TBC
 Price: TBC



● www.mitchesmilitarymodels.co.uk

ON THE SIDE

Officer Continental Army 1779

HEROES
 Manufacturer: Heroes and Villains
 Scale: 54mm
 Kit Type: Cast resin
 Kit Number: TBC
 Price: TBC
 ● www.historexagents.com



Austro-Hungarian Soldier World War I

BLACK DOG
 Manufacturer: Black Dog
 Scale: 1:35
 Kit Type: Cast resin
 Kit Number: F75018
 Price: TBC
 ● www.blackdog.cz



Modern Military in 1:35 from Djiti's

Bundeswehr
 Manufacturer: Djiti's Production
 Scale: 1:35
 Kit Type: Cast resin
 Kit Number: 35060
 Price: TBC



Italian Female Soldier with Kid

Manufacturer: Djiti's Production
 Scale: 1:35
 Kit Type: Cast resin
 Kit Number: 35061
 Price: TBC
 ● www.djiti.production.free.fr



New Resin from Toro

TORO
 48F42 – 1:48 Royal Air Force / Polish Air Force Driver for Bedford MWD – ideal for the Airfix kit
 35F78 – 1:35 Driver for Chevrolet C60 Truck
 35F79 – 1:35 Polish Officer 24th Lancers Regiment
 35F80 – 1:35 Finnish Army – Old Soldier with Reindeer – Winter War 1939-40
 ● www.toro-model.home.pl





ON THE SIDE

More Kelly's Heroes!

Oriana Miniatures has produced a new 1:48 'Sherman Motley Crew' Set sculpted in white metal with a resin loudspeaker for good measure! 'No negative vibes man....'

• www.oniriaminiatures.com



Iranian Chieftain Crew

AC MODELS

Manufacturer: AC Models

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Cast resin

Kit Number: TBC

Price: TBC



Australian Independent Commando Pair, New Guinea

Manufacturer: AC Models

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Cast resin

Kit Number: ACM 75024

Price: TBC

• www.acmodels.co.nz



Parachute Regiment

Ulster 1970s and 1980s

MITCHES MILITARY

Manufacturer: Mitches

Military Models

Scale: 1:6

Kit Type: Cast resin

Kit Number: TBC

Price: TBC

• www.mitchesmilitarymodels.co.uk



Union Infantryman

MINISOLDIERS

Manufacturer: Minisoldiers

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Cast resin

Kit Number: TBC

Price: TBC

• www.minisoldiers.com



Alpine Miniatures

11th Infantry Division 1939, #1

Manufacturer: Alpine Miniatures

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Cast resin

Kit Number: ADB35034

Price: TBC

11th Infantry Division 1939, #2

Manufacturer: Alpine Miniatures

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Cast resin

Kit Number: ADB35035

Price: TBC



Also available as a set

Soldiers of the 11th Carpathian Infantry Division, Jaworów 1939

• www.armahobby.com

KMT

Captain John Miller 2nd Ranger Battalion

Manufacturer: KMT

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Cast resin

Kit Number: KMT35020F

Price: TBC

• www.phpshopxml.com



Elan 13

World War I Pilot in Fur Coat

Manufacturer: Elan 13

Scale: 1:32

Kit Type: Cast resin

Kit Number: EU18

Price: TBC

• www.elan13.co.uk



Dynamic Masterbox!

World War I Trench Attack

Manufacturer: Masterbox

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded

Kit Number: 35116

Price: TBC

If the box art is anything to go by then this new diorama set from Masterbox is going to be outstanding!

• www.mbltd.info



New at El Greco

USAAF Fighter Pilot 1944

Manufacturer: Young Miniatures
Scale: 1:10
Kit Type: Cast resin
Kit Number: YYM-1856
Price: £37.00



Sir Mowbray

Manufacturer: Crecy Models
Scale: 75mm
Kit Type: White Metal
Kit Number: CM1502
Price: £33.30



Swiss Guard with Halberd

Manufacturer: Tin Berlin
Scale: 54mm
Kit Type: White metal
Kit Number: TIN-54021
Price: £17.58



Mounted Germanic Warrior

Manufacturer: Mercury Models
Scale: 75mm
Kit Type: Cast resin
Kit Number: FPW00001
Price: £18.05



Grossdeutschland

Manufacturer: Masterclass/Deja Vu
Scale: 54mm
Kit Type: Cast resin
Kit Number: €FDV5453
Price: £23.13



Mongol Warrior with Spear

Manufacturer: Chronos Miniatures
Scale: 54mm
Kit Type: Cast resin
Kit Number: CHM-54047
Price: £18.50



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ProCreate

Two-part epoxy putty: ideal for sculpting smaller figures and for refined detail. Comes in a 70gr blister. Can be mixed with Magic Sculp.

EL GRECO MINIATURES

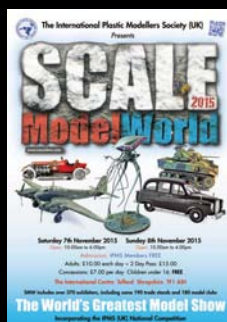
Online retailers for various manufacturers, presenting a range of figures and busts, both historical and fantasy. Stockists for Magic Sculp, ProCreate as well as a wide assortment Vallejo Modelcolor acrylic paints. We also produce our own range of figures and busts, covering unusual subjects and periods.

WWW.ELGRECOMINIATURES.CO.UK | E-mail: info@elgrecominiatures.co.uk



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Rest of the World is £35

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The Society has an online presence at www.ipms-uk.co.uk which provides information on all our Branches, Special Interest Groups, Events and Executive Committee as well as details of how to join us. We also maintain a web forum accessible from the website. The forum is open to IPMS Members and non-members. Anyone can view the forums, but you must register online before you can take part in them.

■ www.ipmsuk.co.uk

■ www.smwshow.com

Not Taking Things Too Seriously

PRESENTED BY JOHN TAPSELL

LOVE THIS HOBBY. I ENJOY THE CHALLENGES IT PUTS IN FRONT OF ME, THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN NEW THINGS, TO TRY NEW

techniques and to share it with others. It is also fun (sometimes in a somewhat perverse way) and it is not always to be taken seriously. Hobbies attract people from across the population, be they young, old, rich, poor, skilled or unskilled. I count among my modelling friends people who could fit into any of those categories and yet we are all driven by that same passion for the hobby.

There are times however, when I have to question what some people think they'll get out of the hobby - 'fun' and 'satisfaction' seemingly being way down their priority lists. I wonder why they still pursue it?

It's one thing to take your hobby seriously but it's quite another to become obsessively involved with it. The most obvious symptom of this level of obsession is amongst that strange breed of ultra-competitive modellers who believe that they have been robbed if their model doesn't win. As a sometime competitor in various competitions and having organised a number of such contests at a national level, I've seen the evidence all too frequently. It 'must' be a failure of the judges, or the judging system, or the rules, or because of bias towards other entrants (or bias against them personally). It is never that a better modeller has beaten them!

For such modellers, the only purpose in going to a show is to compete, to add to their trophy haul and to shore up their self-belief in their superiority. They often have a coterie of admirers and are happy to expound upon their view of the world, but are rarely popular with a wider audience. However, 'competition' is but one element of the obsessive approach. Another is the 'expert'. Many of us are particularly knowledgeable about some aspect of our hobby and are happy to share that knowledge with others, but there are ways of doing this and ways not to. Sharing information is one thing - showing down their throats to demonstrate your supposed superiority is quite another.

You may have come across them. They'll cheerfully tell you all about how your model could have been so much more accurate if only you'd spoken to them first and been given the benefit of all the stuff they know and the myriad 'corrections' that absolutely 'must' be made. They come in two basic flavours - the one who actually builds models but is so wrapped up in getting the details right that they often forget the basic construction skills; and the other who talks a perfect model but never actually finishes one and



never quite seems to be willing to let you see their latest work-in-progress.

Of course, I am over-simplifying the emphasise a point. The degree to which any modeller fits into these categories varies enormously (and yes, I've been guilty of some of these traits in the past too). This is a hobby after all, and it attracts a broad spectrum of people to its fold. We cheerfully take light-hearted swipes at hobbyists who follow different interests but it's wise to remember that those same traits are ones, which we often exhibit as well.

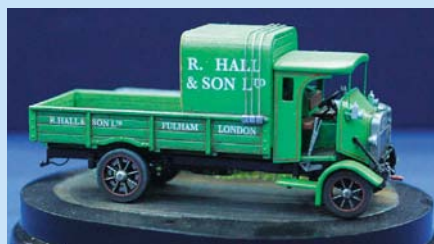
Most of us approach our hobby with a degree of amusement and seriousness. It's a complex hobby in some ways, with a great deal of effort put into getting the techniques right and producing a presentable model - at least presentable in our own eyes. There is a satisfaction in getting a model completed and setting it on a shelf (or wherever else you happen to put your completed projects), before admiring it afresh and thinking 'I did that'.



There are some however for whom that isn't enough. They have to be noticed; they have to be heard; they must be respected. Instead of 'I did that' it becomes a case of 'look how good I am'. To have goals is commendable, but to pursue them at the expense of admiring and appreciating what is around you seems such a waste. The work of my fellow modellers is a constant source of inspiration and enjoyment. It feeds my hobby. It renews my passion for it. Maybe that's why I enjoy attending shows so much and going to the meetings of my local IPMS Branch every month. It exposes me to the huge range of modelling subjects that exist.

If you've made no other sensible New Year resolution in 2016, why not undertake to enjoy your hobby more and help others to enjoy theirs as well? Join a local club. Go to a local show and meet up with your fellow hobbyists. In this day and age, you could just log on and join a forum or a Facebook group which are great ways of connecting with people, but it's a far cry from meeting real people and benefiting from the interaction in a real environment.

■ www.ipmsuk.co.uk



Military SCALE Manual

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www.tankmuseum.org



PANZER IV – THE GERMAN ARMY'S WORKHORSE

BACKGROUND

THE GERMAN PANZER IV MEDIUM TANK WAS DEVELOPED IN THE LATE 1930S AND USED EXTENSIVELY DURING THE Second World War. Designed for infantry support, the Panzer IV was not intended to engage enemy armour, that role being allocated to the Panzer III. However, with the inadequacy of the Panzer III becoming apparent and in the face of T-34 tanks, the Panzer IV soon assumed the original role of its increasingly vulnerable cousin. The most widely manufactured and deployed German tank of the Second World War, the Panzer IV was used as the base for many other fighting vehicles, including the StuG, IV Jagdpanzer IV, the Wirbelwind and the Brummbär.

The Panzer IV saw service in all combat theaters and was the only German tank



Panzer IV Ausf.C

to remain in continuous production throughout the war, with over 8,800 produced between 1936 and 1945. Upgrades and design modifications, intended to counter new threats, extended its service life. Generally, these involved increasing the Panzer IV's armour or upgrading its

weapons, although during the last months of the war, with Germany's pressing need for rapid replacement of losses, design changes also included simplifications to speed up the manufacturing process.

PANZER IV AUSF.A TO AUSF.D

The Ausf.A saw only thirty-five examples produced by 1936. The next step was the Ausf.B, with a modified commander's cupola, a new Maybach HL 120TR engine, and a new SSG75 transmission. Despite the additional weight, top speed was increased to 39km/h (27mph), and a reinforced protection was issued. Armour was raised to 30mm (1.18in) on the frontal glacis, and 15mm (0.59in) elsewhere. After a just forty-two examples the production shifted to the Ausf.C. Here the armour was again increased to 30mm (1.18in) around the turret, however after forty were produced, the type was again



A knocked out Panzer IV

PANZER IV

The German Army's Workhorse

improved by the introduction of the new Maybach HL 120TRM, for the next 100 as the Ausf.D. The 'D' was identified by the reintroduction of a hull machine gun, and the internal gun mantlet was now on the exterior. Side protection was also increased to 20mm (0.79in).

PANZER IV AUSF.E

The Ausf.E was the first large scale wartime series, and retained the short KwK 37 L/24, but the front hull glacis was increased to 50mm (1.97in), with 30mm (1.18in) appliqué steel plates as an interim measure. The commander's cupola was relocated further forward, and on late production vehicles a kit was provided for a large turret storage basket, in common with the Panzer III.



Panzer IC Ausf.D

PANZER IV AUSF.F1

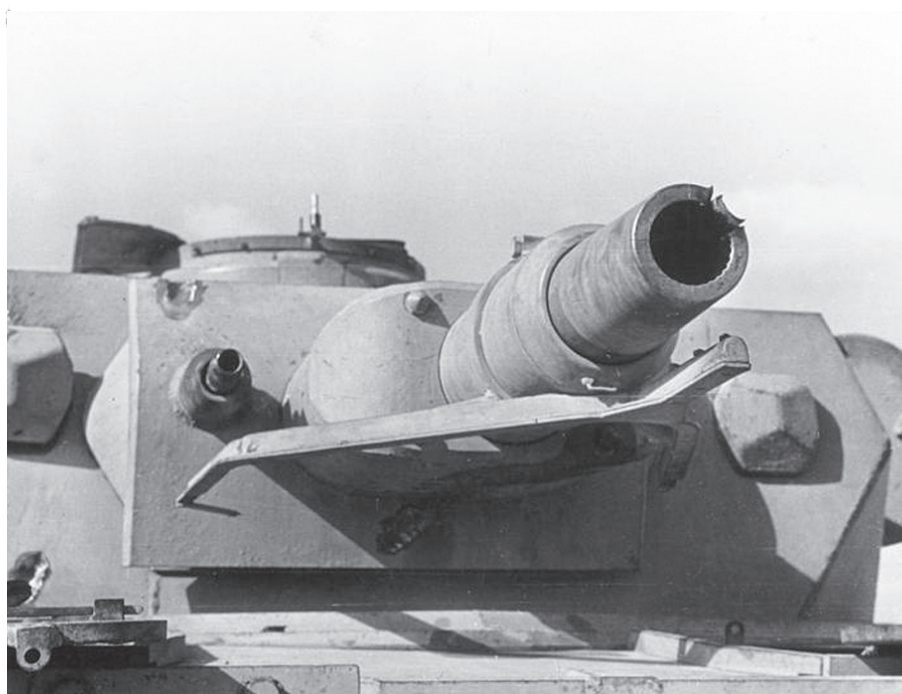
The 'Ausf.F' was a landmark in the Panzer IV evolution and development. The early model 'F', called 'F1' when the next model appeared, was the last of the 'short' versions. The front bow plate appliqué armour was now replaced by a full 50mm (1.97in) armoured plate, and the side armour and turret thickness were raised to 30mm (1.18in). Other modifications included larger track links (from 380 to 400mm) to reduce ground pressure, and both the idler wheel and front drive sprockets were modified in turn. The last forty-two produced were modified to the F2 standard.

PANZER IV AUSF.F2

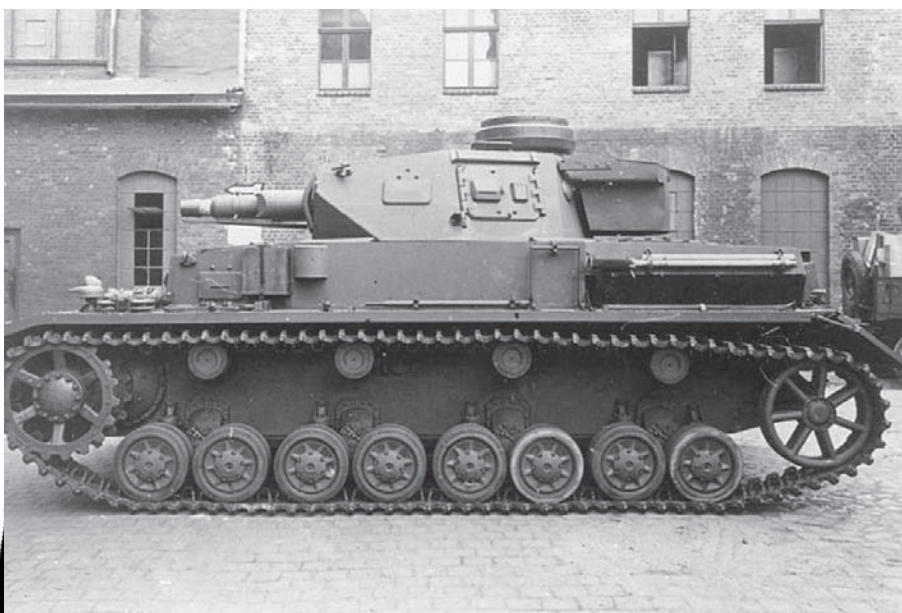
After the first prototype was produced by Krupp, and now fitted with the KwK 40 L/43, in February 1942, production of the F2 started, and by July 1942 some 175 had been delivered. However, in June 1942, the 'F2' was renamed 'Ausf.G', and further modifications were applied on the production line, but both types were known to the Waffenamt as the Sd.Kfz.161/1.

PANZER IV AUSF.G

The 'Ausf.G' was an improved F2, with armour modifications including a weight saving solution, consisting of progressive glacis side armour, which was thicker at its base. The frontal glacis received a new 30mm (1.18in) appliqué plate, giving a total of 80mm (3.15in). This was largely sufficient against the Russian medium-velocity 76mm (3in) gun and the fearful 76.2mm anti-tank gun. At first, it was decided to bring only half production to this standard, but Adolf Hitler personally ordered, in January 1943, that the full production would be upgraded, a decision well-received by the crew. However, the weight rose to 23.6 tons, further stressing the limited capacity of the chassis and transmission. The turret vision port slits were eliminated, the engine ventilation and ignition at low temperatures were improved, and additional racks were fitted for spare road wheels and brackets for track links on the glacis. These acted as makeshift protection as well. A new headlight was



A Panzer IV Ausf.E showing signs of multiple hits to the turret, including the gun barrel



Short barreled Panzer IV F1



Panzer IV Ausf. H

installed and the commander's cupola was up-armoured and modified. The late production versions, in March-April 1943, saw the introduction Schürzen to the sides and turret, the latter equipped with smoke grenade launchers. Most importantly, they received the new KwK 40 L/48, with greater penetration power.

PANZER IV AUSF. H

The 'Ausf. H' was equipped with the new long calibre KwK 40 L/48, and other modifications included simplifications to ease production, like the removal of the hull side vision ports, and, later, parts sharing with the Panzer III. This was by far the biggest production of the type, with a total of 3,774 machines, until its replacement by the 'Ausf. J' in June 1944. Krupp had received a request, in December 1942 for a new version featuring all-sloped armour, which would have also required a new chassis, transmission and probably engine as well due to the added weight. However, production started on an upgraded version of the 'Ausf. G' instead. A

new headlight was set, a new Zahnradfabrik ZF SSG-76 transmission, new set of radios (FU2 and 5, and intercom), and, more importantly, a more powerful Maybach HL 120 TRM engine. This was necessary in order to cope with the full glacis protection now being raised to 80mm (3.15in), with no appliqué parts. By the end of 1943, Zimmerit paste was factory-applied; new air filters were fitted, along with a turret anti-aircraft mount for an extra MG 34, as well as modifications to the commander's cupola. Side and turret spaced armour was also factory installed.

PANZER IV AUSF. J

The last type, the 'Ausf. J' incorporated more mass-production oriented simplifications, rarely welcomed by the crews. A first example was the removal of the electric turret drive, traversing being done manually, sacrificed for an additional 200lt of fuel, raising the operational range to 300km (186mi), a lesson hard learnt from the Russian



A captured German Panzer IV used for anti-tank weapon tests by the British Eighth Army



Panzer IV Ausf. G

campaign. Other modifications included the removal of the turret visor; pistol ports and turret anti-aircraft gun mount in favour of a Nhrteidigungswaffe mount. Zimmerit was no longer applied, nor were the Schürzen, replaced by cheaper 'Thoma-Type' wire-mesh panels. The engine's radiator housing was also simplified, and the drive train lost one return roller, and two Flammentter (flame-suppressing) mufflers were installed, as well as Pilze crane mount sockets. More critically, the late Panzer III SSG 77 transmission was used, despite it being clearly overloaded. Despite these sacrifices, Allied bombing and parts shortages increasingly threatened the 'J' deliveries.



WALKAROUND

Panzer IV



PANZER IV

walkaround

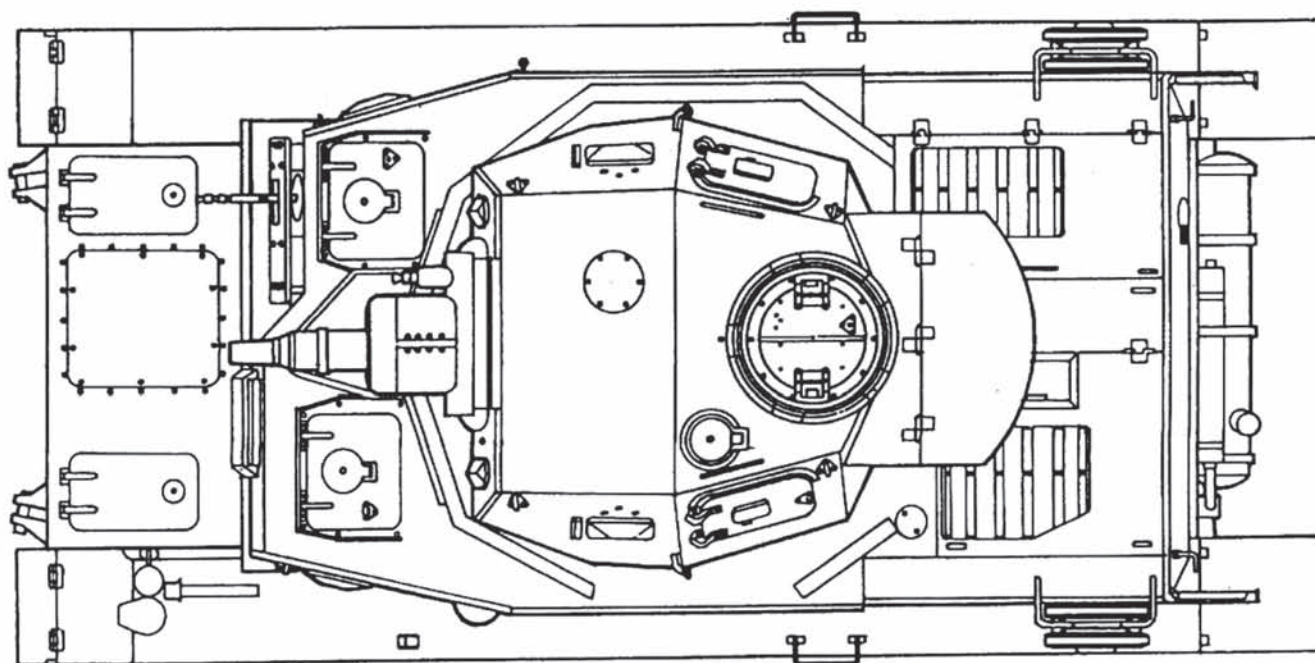
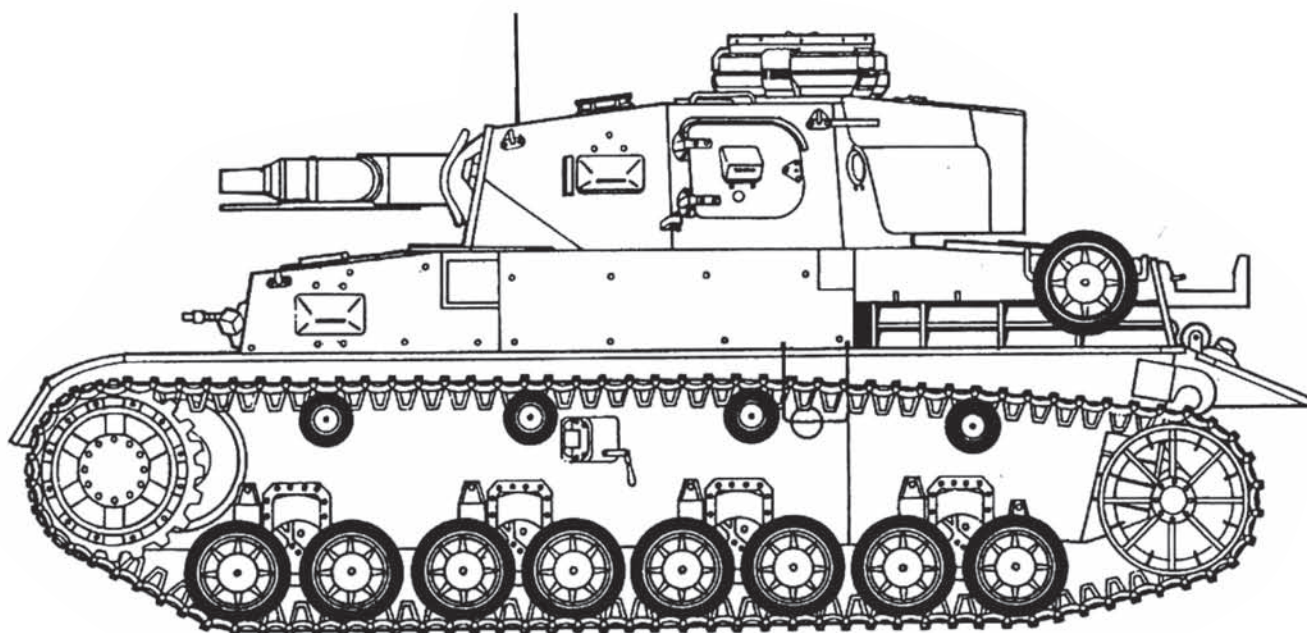




PANZER IV

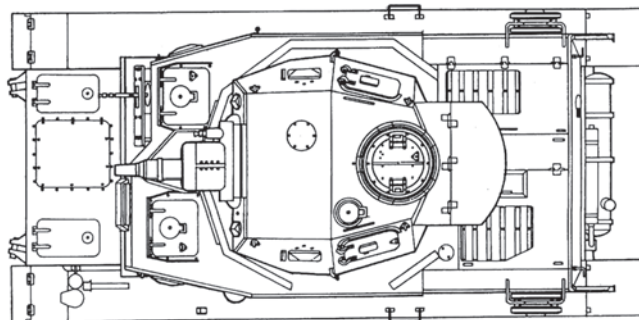
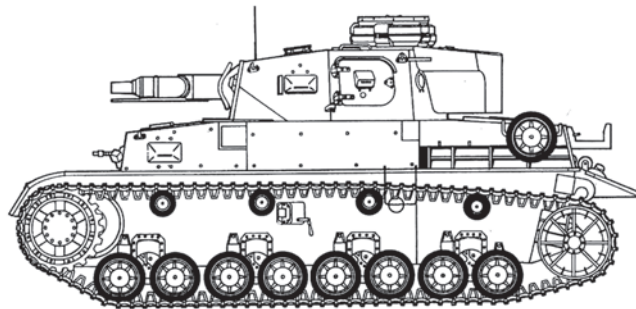
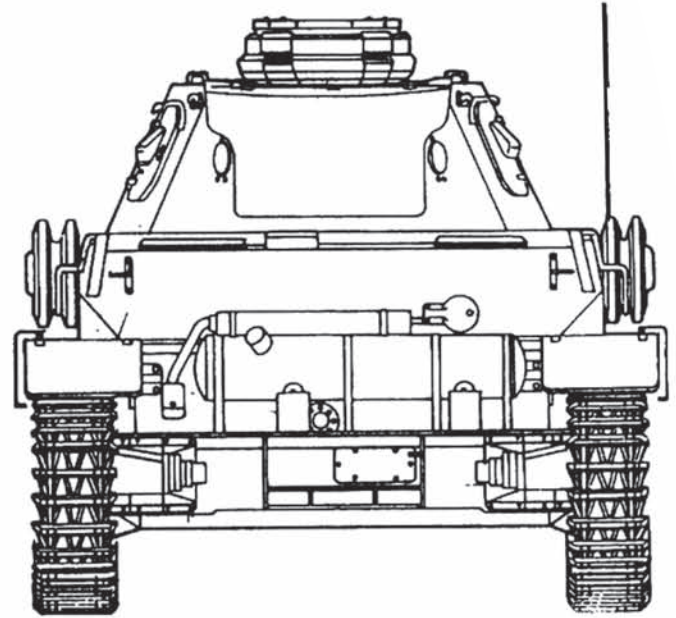
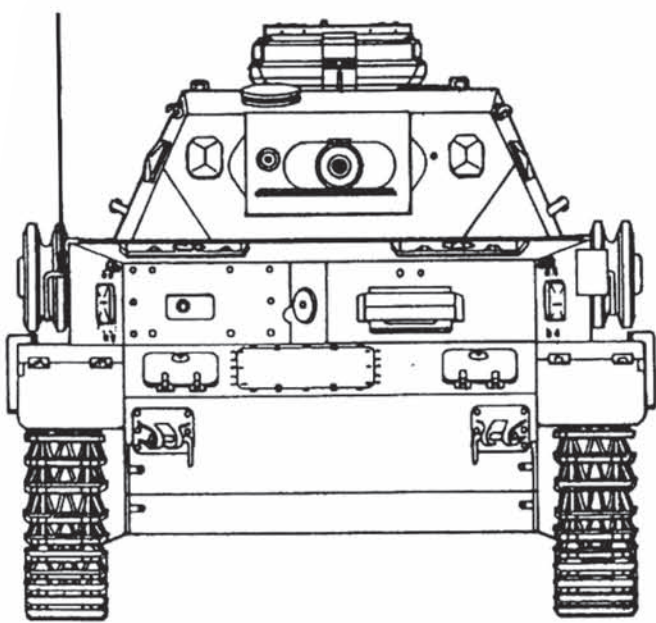
Scale 1:72 and 1:35 / Scale Plans

1:35 SCALE

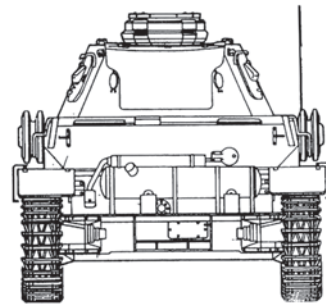
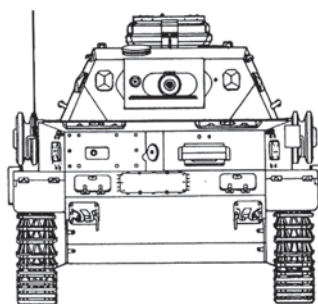


SCALE PLANS

Panzer IV Ausf.E



1:72 SCALE



PANZER IV

Scale 1:35 / Pz.Kpfw.IV Ausf.A mit Zusatzpanzer

KIT DATA

Pz.Kpfw.IV Ausf.A mit Zusatzpanzer

Manufacturer: Dragon

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: plastic injection moulded with etch

Kit Number: 6816

BLITZKRIEG Panzer

ROBIN GILBY BUILDS THE DRAGON PANZER IV AUSF.A MIT ZUSATZPANZER

EARLY WAR TYPE

DRAGON

HERE WE HAVE ANOTHER OF DRAGON'S RECENT RELEASES, AND ANOTHER PANZER IV VARIANT. THIS ONE IS AN EARLY war Ausf.A Zusatzpanzer, an up-armoured tank produced to take part in the Blitzkrieg campaigns of 1939/40. There are seventeen sprues of light grey plastic with nearly as many parts ready for the spares box as there are to be used! A nice couple of etched frets contain all the relevant parts for detailing and to carry out the up-armoured modifications required, and there is one finishing option offered of Panzer Grey with no unit markings.

Things begin as usual with the lower hull and running gear, the first of the fourteen build stages. The mouldings here are sublime with stunning detail out of the box and options to choose different styles of sprockets and even a choice of two different separate tyres are supplied for the wheel assemblies. All of this goes together very well with no issues and before too long the lower build has taken shape and is complete. Next things move onto the upper hull, which includes some basic interior parts including the vision blocks, which can be positioned open or closed. Now for the exterior detailing, the entire tool stowage, light fittings, and the crew and engine deck hatches. Again all the parts are high on fine detail and the fitment is near on perfect. The build moves



THIS WAS A REALLY STRAIGHTFORWARD BUILD, BENEFITING FROM DRAGON'S EXPERT ENGINEERING AND QUALITY PARTS

ZUSATZPANZER

Panzer IV





PANZER IV

Scale 1:35 / Pz.Kpfw.IV Auf.f.A mit Zusatzpanzer



Deluxe Materials
glues are highly
recommended here



You get plenty of
etched parts to add
greater detail

ZUSATZPANZER

Panzer IV



PANZER IV

Scale 1:35 / Pz.Kpfw.IV Ausf.A mit Zusatzpanzer

along quite quickly now with just the turret left to do. Here again there is basic interior detail provided including the gun breech and block, turret floor and crew seats, so probably enough to be seen if you wish to have any of the hatches open. To add a bit more interest I fitted some spare track links to the turret roof and fixed them in place with some etched brackets.

The provided tracks are of the DS type, a nicely moulded one-piece vinyl track which fits well enough and can be glued in place using normal plastic cement. Once dry I spaced the top run with some blobs of Blu



Tack and then glued the track in place on the idlers to achieve any desired sag. These are quite a good compromise against individual links and certainly help speed up the build! Of course if you wish to add an upgraded set that would add to the realism, but for review purposes I went with what was provided. The exhaust and some smaller parts such as grab handles are the last things to be fitted to the body and before I knew it I was at the final stage on the instructions, fitment of the extra etch armour. This is what distinguishes this Panzer IV variant, and all the parts fit on the front hull and glacis. They are all provided as separate parts as on the real thing, and they lined up quite well with just minimal adjustment needed at some of the mating edges.

With all that in place the model was ready for a coat of primer, in this case I used matt black to help give some depth to the Panzer Grey topcoat, which I modulated with my airbrush. I then used Vallejo acrylics to paint in all the detail parts and bring some colour to the tracks. With the one option given of 'unidentified unit 1940' you don't need to worry about too many decals, as just three Balkenkreuze are provided. At this stage I also made and fitted a small fascine from cocktail sticks at the front of the tank, and carried out some minimal chipping and weathering of the paintwork.



I followed this up with various MIG washes to bring out more detail, and then a light dry brushing of light grey in various shades and tones across the body to highlight the rivets and hatch details. Then I made up a nice mud mix using MIG Nature Effects, MIG Pigments Europe Earth and some fine sand, which was applied at all the lower surfaces and the build was complete, and I was left with a fine looking Blitzkrieg Panzer! This was a really straightforward build, benefiting from Dragon's expert engineering and quality parts. Don't be put off by the large parts count on opening the box; there really are a lot of unused sprues included. So if you feel the need for another Panzer IV variant for your collection or fancy this as your first one, this comes highly recommended. **Military**





www.zvezda.org.ru

INNOVATIONS IN MODEL KITS

"KING TIGER" AUSF. B (HENSCHEL TURRET) GERMAN HEAVY TANK



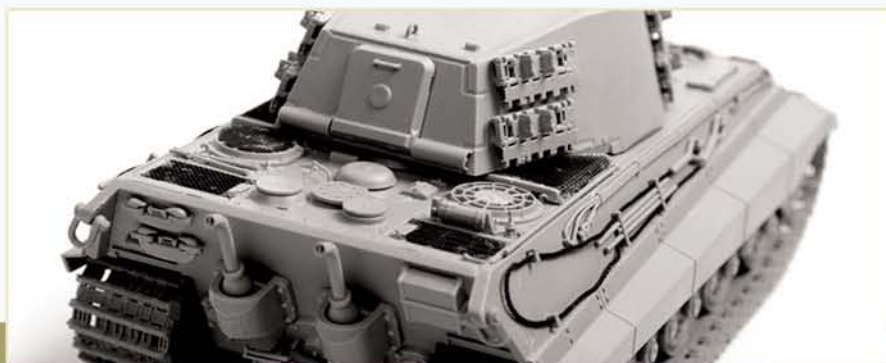
#3601

Parts: 423

Length: 30 cm



Most powerful
German tank
in **1/35**
scale!



www.hobbyco.net

Zvezda Kits are distributed in the UK
by The Hobby Company Limited,
Knowhill, Milton Keynes, MK5 8PG
See the full Zvezda range at www.hobbyco.net
Zvezda models are available from good model shops

ON THE SIDE

Lifecolor Liquid Pigments

New from Lifecolor are three sets of liquid pigments aimed at very specific areas of your model, and each set has six different shades.

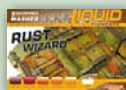
Detail Emphasizer

Designed for tanks and vehicles, this set has the darkest colour range out of the three and will help give any model more depth and incredible detail.



Rain and Dust

This set includes some lighter colours to create natural effects such as rain weathering/residue and aging with dust, giving any model an extra touch of realism.



Rust Wizard

Including deep, warm colours this set will give you everything you need to create outstanding rust effects on your models.

• www.airbrushes.com



Wheels for Jeep Trailer

Off Road Type

SKP

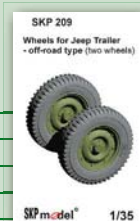
Manufacturer: SKP

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Cast resin

Kit Number: SKP209

Price: TBC



Andy Renshaw

SKP Model out of Czech Republic has kindly sent us a sample of their latest wheel set which provides perfectly cast and detailed wheels for the Bantam T3 ¼ ton trailer, most commonly seen towed by Jeeps. The wheels are called out as 'Off Road' but are the standard non-directional military tread. A separate set (SKP 208) provides a road type tread. The wheels have the same 'Ford' markings as those provided in the Bronco kit, however, this set would be perfect to upgrade those older Italeri trailers, and no doubt that is where this set will find a home shortly!

Our thanks to SKP for the review sample

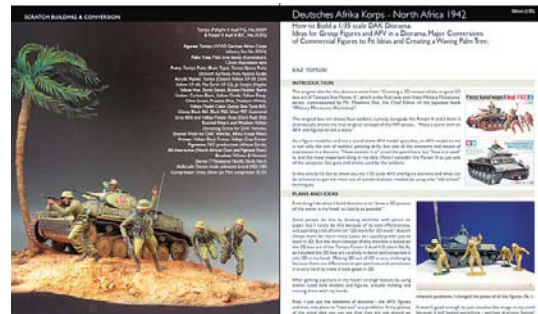
• www.skpmodel.eu



Scale Modelling Handbook No.18

Mark Dollery Reports

Our good friend Stelios Demiras has a new Mr Black Scale Model Handbook No.18 dedicated to World War Two. As Stelios says "Although more than seventy-years have passed since the beginning of The Second World War, in many ways its effects of are still felt today. Although the cost in human lives and resources was immense, this era also created a feeling of romanticism and has been the platform for many heroic, as well as unspeakable criminal acts. However, this era is perhaps among the most popular with modellers. So this new book offers the 'best of the best in terms of figures, dioramas, vignettes, busts, painting and building techniques, weathering and much more to come, bringing inspiration and enriching both your knowledge and your library! We've reached the eighteenth book in our series and it is a result of collaboration from both old and new contributors, and this is the first book in the series entirely dedicated to creations inspired by those events that took place between the years 1939-1945. We must thank all our contributors for their excellent work and their dedication to achieve this project. In particular, Kaz Tomori, Carl Startin Carlos Figureart, Man Jin Kim, Juanma Vergara, Stelios Neofytidis, Ioannis Tsikstiris and the dynamic Toshihiro Sano who appears for first time in one of our publications, offering no less than three articles!"



Tips For Beginners

Deutsches Afrika Korps - North Africa 1942 - 50mm (1:35)

Rasputitsa - 50mm (1:35)

LAH Kharkov 1943 - 50mm (1:35)

SS Unterscharführer - 75mm (1:24)

WWII US BAR Gunner - 50mm (1:35)

Japanese Officer in a Tropical Hell - 75mm (1:24)

Oberleutnant Georg Briel - DAK - 120mm (1:16)

On The Edge of No Man's Land - 180mm (1:10)

Tripoli, 1941 - The DAK is here! - 50mm (1:35)

Stalingrad, 1942 - 50mm (1:35)

German DAK Infantry North Africa WWII - 180mm (1:10)

Blitzkrieg - Vorwärts - 50mm (1:35)

Royal Armoured Corps AFV Crew - 50mm (1:35)

Battle of Moscow, 1941-1942 - 50mm (1:35)

German Staff Car Type 82E

Manufacturer: Revell

Scale: 1:35

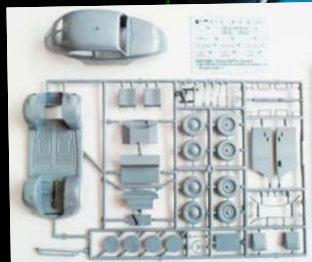
Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded

Kit Number: 03247

Price £15.99

Clive Duckworth

This kit has sixty-six parts in total with fifty-six moulded in light grey plastic plus ten clear parts. It comes in the typical Revell side-opening box and all the parts are secured in a sealed polythene bag with the instructions and decals separate in the box. Options are for three vehicles from the

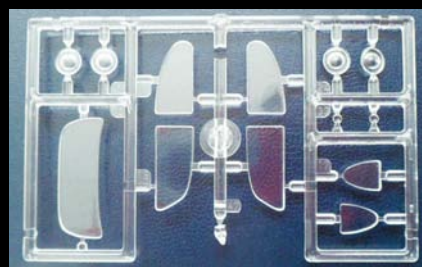


Wehrmacht including two based on a sand and sand/green pattern and the other in overall grey. The moulding appears crisp and well produced with no flash, but the rooftop has a pronounced moulding blob, which requires sanding off as highlighted

in the instructions. There is a parts diagram and fifteen easy to follow build stages plus three colour pages for the painting and decals, which look to be in, register and well printed. No history of type is given but it needs no introduction as the Volkswagen Beetle!

Thanks to Revell for the review sample

• www.revell.de/en





Autocannone 3RO

ITALERI

Manufacturer: Italeri

Scale: 1:72

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded

Kit Number: 7508

Price £14.99

Tom Primett

The Lancia 3RO 4x2 heavy truck is widely considered as the most reliable heavy truck of the Italian Army in World War II. Serving in all theatres of the war, the 3RO evolved from a series of earlier Lancia RO trucks with a powerful five-cylinder engine and an improved transmission. In 1941 the 3RO was first used to provide protection a mobile platform for the 90/53 Model 1939 anti-aircraft gun.



The Italeri kit of this combination first appeared in 2008 and is offered now in a new box with three sprues of injection moulded plastic. The main sprue contains all of the parts for the Lancia and platform, the second sprue holds the main parts of the gun and the third sprue has eight crew figures. The box proclaims that the kit is 'Especially developed for Wargame Use' but it is well detailed with far more parts than you would find in a traditional 'snap together' offering. The kit depicts a vehicle in the firing position with the stabilizer jacks lowered but a gunsight is not fitted. Some work is required to display the vehicle in transport mode – but it is not too difficult. The cab is a single piece as is the chassis, which makes assembly simple, and the stabilizing jacks are also single parts and the locating pins hold all the



major components together – although it is recommended that these are glued to ensure permanence. The gunners provided are of a good standard and look accurate, although a couple of the figures are in strange poses. Two colour schemes are available; one for the Italian Army 131st Tank Division in Tunisia in early 1943 and the second for an Italian vehicle used in Sicily in July 1943. This is a great little kit of an unusual subject, and those interested in Italian AFVs have long been neglected in the smaller scales so doubtless this will be a welcome addition.

Thanks to The Hobby Company for the review sample

• www.hobbyco.net



PREVIEWS

Initial Look at Items Received from Manufacturers

ON THE SIDE

US M38A1 Utility Truck Wheel Set

Manufacturer: DEF Model

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Cast resin

Kit Number: DW35075

Price: TBC



Andy Renshaw

DEF Model has produced a fine set of resin replacement wheels for the M38A1 Jeep. The kit is currently available through AFV Club, but was a previous Skybow release and these resin wheels provide a marked improvement over the kit items. Fine detail such as manufacturers stamping on the rubber tyres, plus detail improvements on the hub add accuracy and visual interest to an area often overlooked. The tyres are also molded with a very subtle and realistic flattened look to replicate the weight of the vehicle. Unlike some other brands of resin wheels, the tread pattern is continued into the pour plug, so once removed there is no marring or lack of pattern where the plug was attached. A spare wheel and painting masks are also provided, so this set is an excellent value for the money!

Thanks to Def Model for the review sample

• www.defmodel.com



ON THE SIDE

New Sets from Star Decals

35-872 - Panzerjäger Marder II Sd.Kfz.132. Eastern Front.

35-869 - German Tanks in Italy #2 - StuG III and StuH 42.

35-868 - German Tanks in Italy #3 - Pz.Kpfw.IV Ausf G and H.

35-866 - German Tanks in Hungary 1945 #3 - Jg.Pz IV L/70, StuG III G, Panther G, Sd.Kfz.251 Stummel.



35-864 - Br. 27th Armoured Brigade #1 - D-Day/Normandy, 13th/18th Royal Hussars - Sherman Mk III.

35-863 - Br. 27th Armoured Brigade #2 - D-Day/Normandy, Staffordshire Yeomanry - Sherman Mk III, Firefly Mk Vc

35-862 - Br. 27th Armoured Brigade #3 - D-Day/Normandy, HQ and East Riding Yeomanry - Sherman Mk III, Firefly Vc, Humber SC.

35-861 - Canadian Armour in Italy. Sherman Mk V - 3 Rivers Regiment, Ontario Regiment.

35-860 - Afghan Tanks - Northern Alliance/Taliban/ANA. T-54B, T-55A, T-55AM.

35-859 - Afghan AFVs - Northern Alliance/Taliban/ANA. ZSU-23-4, BRDM-2, BRDM-2 Sagger, MAZ 537, BTR-70.

35-858 - German Tanks in Italy #5 - Grille, StuG IV, Flamm-Pz III, Marder III H, Sd.Kfz.250.

35-857 - German Tanks in Italy #6 - Pz.Kpfw. IV Ausf H.

35-856 - East Prussia and Königsberg #3 - Panzer Mix. Jg.Pz IV L/70(A), Jg.Pz IV L/48, StuG III, StuH 42, Sd.Kfz.250, Sd.Kfz.251.

35-855 East Prussia and Königsberg #2 - Panzer Mix. Panther Ausf A and Tiger I.

35-854 - East Prussia and Königsberg #1 - Panther Ausf G and Befehls Panther G.

35-853 - UKW - Lastkraftwagen - Opel Blitz and Mercedes 3000.

35-852 - Grille Ausf H Sd.Kfz.138/1.

35-851 - German I.Skijäger Division. - R.S.O. T-34 m/41, T-34 m/43, Grille H, Kubelwagen.

• www.star-decals.net

Panzerhaubitze 2000 With Add On Armour

MENG-MODEL

Manufacturer: Meng-Model

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded with etch

Kit Number: TS-O19

Price: £49.99

Neil Gardiner

In mid-2014 Meng-Model released their impressive German Panzerhaubitze 2000 Self-Propelled Howitzer, a year later they have released another version, and this edition comes with the modular needle-shaped add on armour and four new colour schemes. That said, the only other difference between the two kits is that the new version is moulded in a tan plastic compared to the green plastic of the original. The Panzerhaubitze 2000 is the world's first self-propelled howitzer that introduced the concept of modular armour protection at the stage of design. Hundreds of hexagon bolts affixed to the hull and turret roof are for the installation of this add-on armour. The add-on armour itself is made up with thousands of 60mm rubber needles, which gives this weird material the nickname, 'Igelpanzerung' (Hedgehog Armour).

The rather heavy top opening box depicts the usual nice box art of the model inside along with front, rear and side profiles of one of the included colour schemes on the box side, upon removing the lid you are then met with an impressive amount of plastic which is understandable due to the size of the Panzerhaubitze. Meng unlike a number of other retailers don't seem to let box space go to waste, its well organised with the thirteen sets of sprue's and parts individually bagged and neatly packed along with separate boxes for both the metal barrel and cement free workable track links with two etched sprue's a clear sprue with the light lenses and periscopes, the decals, a length of string and the assembly guide finishing up the contents.

The hull and the turret like the original version have the anti-slip coating moulded directly onto the pieces, it has a realistic texture and is the best I've seen pre-moulded, and comparing pictures of actual units they seem to be correctly sized. Details on the other sprue's are crisp and clean with very little flash and virtually no seam lines the only let down with the sprue's are the ejector marks and nubs all over them, in all fairness these all seem to be located on parts that won't be seen, but you will need to remove the nubs before fitting anything together as it will interfere with the build, the most noticeable of these are on the rear of the main gun mount and will need to be cut or snapped and sanded off for this part to fit. The main gun uses the provided metal barrel



and has the option to have the muzzle open or covered, the other end of the barrel has nice sagging detail on the material which covers the joint to the turret, the barrel is also free to elevate and lower using two poly-caps or be locked into a travel clamp on the front of the hull. The modular needle-shaped add on armour comes as a separate sprue in black with separately moulded sections

allowing you to add them to the turret and hull as desired, the detail and texture is exceptional and there is very little clean-up required but again ejector nubs need to be removed before fitting, it is worth noting that the armour sections that are placed on the hull sit almost flush with the bottom of the turret and can restrict the rotation slightly.

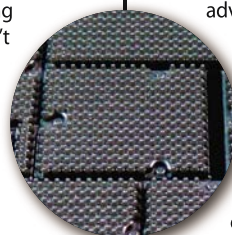
The cement free workable tracks come boxed with three bags consisting of the lower track pads, the upper track pads and the connecting pins, to make the track sections just snap fit them together using a handy jig provided on another sprue along with optional ice breaker cleats to replace some of the lower track pads, caution is advised when removing the upper track pads attachment points as the guide horns on the pads are very thin and easily break splitting the pad into two this can be fixed but creates a lot more work, so plan to spend a lot of time on these tracks, however once complete they look and work exceptionally well and with the fact that

the suspension is also workable they are well worth all the effort that is required to make them. Decals and colour schemes provided for, German Troops International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), Afghanistan, 2010, 115th Panzer Artillery Battalion, German Federal Armed Forces, Germany, 2006, Dutch Troops International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), Afghanistan, 2008 and Dutch Troops International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), Afghanistan, 2009

This is an exceptionally detailed kit, with the only downsides being the vast amount of ejector pin marks, and due to the tracks this is not one for the novice modeller, I would highly recommend this to anyone who likes big armour likes a challenge and doesn't have the original release.

Thanks to Creative Models for the review sample

www.creativemodels.co.uk



Panhard 178 AMD-35 World War II French Armoured Vehicle

Manufacturer: ICM

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded

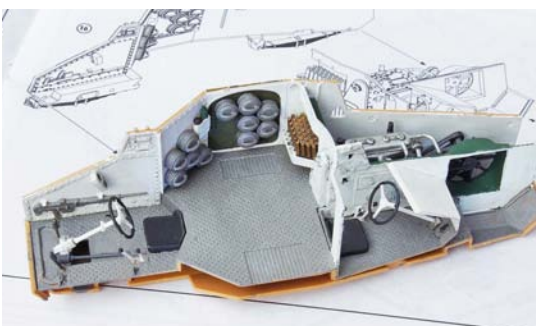
Kit Number: 35373

Price £19.99

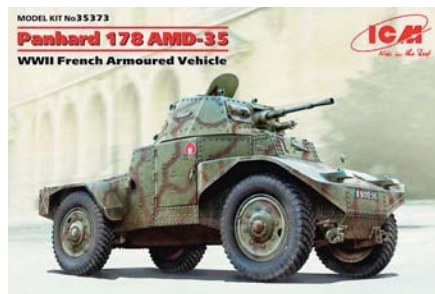
Clive Duckworth

The ICM Panhard 178 kit represents the most numerous French armoured vehicles from World War II, and was primarily operated by Cavalry units for reconnaissance. It was produced from 1934 and featured a rear-mounted engine with all wheel drive and was capable of being driven from either the front or the rear, having two driving positions. Over 500 vehicles were produced and these played an important role in the battle for France in 1940. It had a crew of four, and armament consisted of a 25mm anti tank gun plus a 7.5mm turret mounted machine gun.

Construction began with the floor sections and interior bulkheads followed by the front and rear driving stations - each complete with seats, steering wheel, gear shifters and other detail. The eleven-piece engine slots into place, and then ammunition drums and shells for the guns.



There really is quite a lot of interesting internal detail and I decided at this stage to pose some of the hatches and doors open to show it off. Paint call outs are given for most of the parts and typically the interior is mostly flat white with just the two main doors painted inside with European Green, which is the base colour for the external hull. The various external panels for the hull are next attached having the suspension unit leaf springs moulded onto the side hull panels rather than the usual practice of them being



separate pieces with the drive and suspension units. There are separate grilles for the engine covers and it is possible to pose these open to show off the engine. The build continues in a logical progressive way with more of the smaller panels and stowage compartments being fitted before turning the model over to fit the drive shafts and axles. The black rubber tyres are excellent and just push over the wheel hubs, which then easily are fitted. With the model now back right way up the



remainder of the smaller parts are added such as the spade and pickaxe, grab handles and headlight shrouds. Just one small point in the instructions that I found in sections 38/39 where attachment of the rear grab handles C6 is repeated in both diagrams. There are four on the sprue but only two are shown fitted in the instructions. With the model so far just falling together with no problems whatsoever, attention is now turned to the turret and armament. Again the detail is good with twin seats for the gunners and well-moulded gun barrels. The machine gun is fixed whilst the 25mm gun elevates and the turret traverses. With the last of the hatches and the two periscopes fitted construction is complete.

Typically painting was done as the construction went along so all the internal colour was already complete. The external main colour suggested is European Green for which I used Revell

Enamel 68. Having chosen one of the schemes with irregular brown patches outlined in flat black I used Humbrol 186 German Brown and just Humbrol 33 for the black.

The colour diagrams for the paint scheme only show the front, back and left hand side so unless you are painting the option shown on the box top, which shows a right side view, you either, need further references or your own judgement. After a couple of coats of Humbrol Clear to avoid silvering, the decals were applied followed by a selective thin black wash to pick out the details. There are four options comprising three versions from the 1st, 2nd & 3rd Platoons 6th CUIR and 1 from the 3rd platoon 8th CUIR, all in France Spring 1940. Decals number seven to ten depending on which scheme chosen and all are excellent with good density and are very easy to work. With softener even the ones positioned over raised rivet detail settled satisfactorily. Once dry the model was finished with an all over matt cote and then a degree of weathering applied with Humbrol 29 Dark Earth suitably thinned with white spirit.

ICM have done a splendid job with this kit, and building it was both a pleasure and a reward as each part fitted perfectly. I found the interior detail to be very well thought through, and made the kit very educational as you can see how the vehicle operated. Full marks to ICM for bringing us this excellent kit, which I would recommend to all skill levels.

Thanks to ICM for the review sample
 ● www.icm.com.ua



INTERVIEW

John Bristow / Deluxe Materials



INSIDE STORY

SMMI TALKS TO JOHN BRISTOW



DELUXE MATERIALS

SMMI: Deluxe Materials have been a part of the hobby world for over forty-years, what changes have you observed in this time?

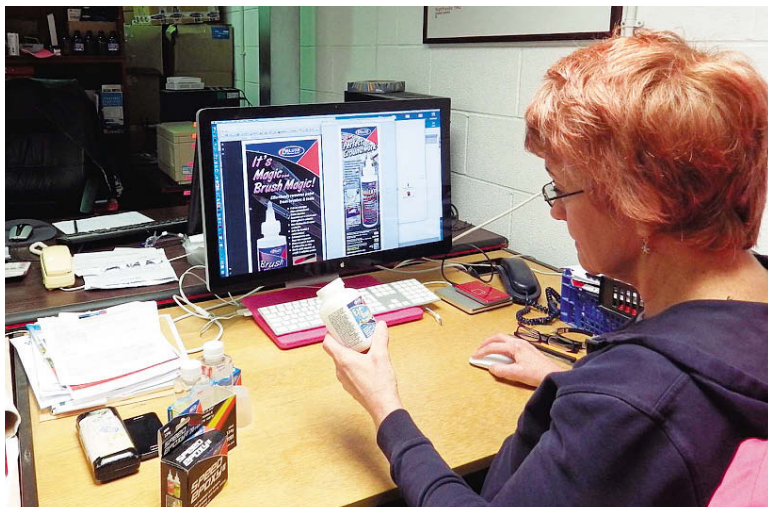
JB: There have been some big changes in many parts of the hobby, including an increasing demand from consumers for greater performance from products and more functionality, and therefore we have had to stay ahead of changing materials. These include easier use adhesives, applicators and finishing materials to enhance appearance, and products for creating scenery and dioramas.

SMMI: How have your research and development methods changed since the beginning?

JB: Considerably. The last five years we have taken a much more thorough approach to what we do and to new products we develop. We have developed our own internal testing methods, for example, tests for penetration and strength (of glues) and fuel resistance of finishes. Packs are also critical, so we are always

testing new packs and bottles. As we have the knowledge of how a product should perform, it has been possible to search for new innovative solutions to modelling problems, using safer chemicals and formulations. On the plastic side we have a new safe plastic adhesive, 'Roket Plastic Glue' and 'Perfect Plastic Putty', a safe water based solution.

JB: Well 'Roket Card Glue', safe instant setting glue for cardboard modelling that has replaced PVA. 'Roket Plastic Glue' - because of its innovative chemistry that enables the use of a tiny fine tip that never clogs. 'Ballast Magic' powder because it addresses ballasting task in a neat clean and fun way and 'Ballast Bond'



WAS IT TO BE 'PAINT-OFF' OR STRIP MAGIC? CONSUMER RESEARCH TOLD US IT SHOULD BE 'STRIP MAGIC.'



SMMI: What processes lead to the decision to produce a product, is it your own personal preference or feedback from customers?

JB: Technology evaluation and availability is key to the process, of course, but it has to be consumer driven. Market research is however key to the process. You can't work off hunches; it is too risky to do that! Hence we start with ideas of our own and combine them with outputs from a brainstorming process involving the trade and modellers. Last year 'Strip Magic' our innovative paint stripper was good example. Was it to be 'Paint-Off' or Strip Magic? Consumer research told us it should be 'Strip Magic.'

SMMI: What new products are in the pipeline?

JB: This year we are taking a break from producing new products to concentrate on a few improvements to the formulations of some of our existing products. We have already identified some safer resin technology and some unique water-soluble polymers.

SMMI: Which of your products are you most proud of?

as it employs a unique chemistry that works so much better than PVA. 'Brush Magic' and 'Strip Magic' because again they combine cleaning power with safety, and 'Roket Hot' Cyano Glue.

SMMI: What does the future hold for Deluxe Materials?

JB: A great future for many more years we hope! The unique combination of being modellers and chemists will enable us to continue for some time. We are going to continue to grow including overseas, and great partners around the globe will allow us to concentrate on developing the right products while they handle the sales and distribution.

SMMI: Finally, what is the most inventive use of one of your products that you have seen?

JB: A good question! We recommended 'Tacky Wax' to an MSc conservation student that needed to study the behaviour of beetles! It was used to attach a miniature-recording device to the beetles back to withstanding movement behaviour such as burrowing in leaf litter and brushing against twigs without harming it.

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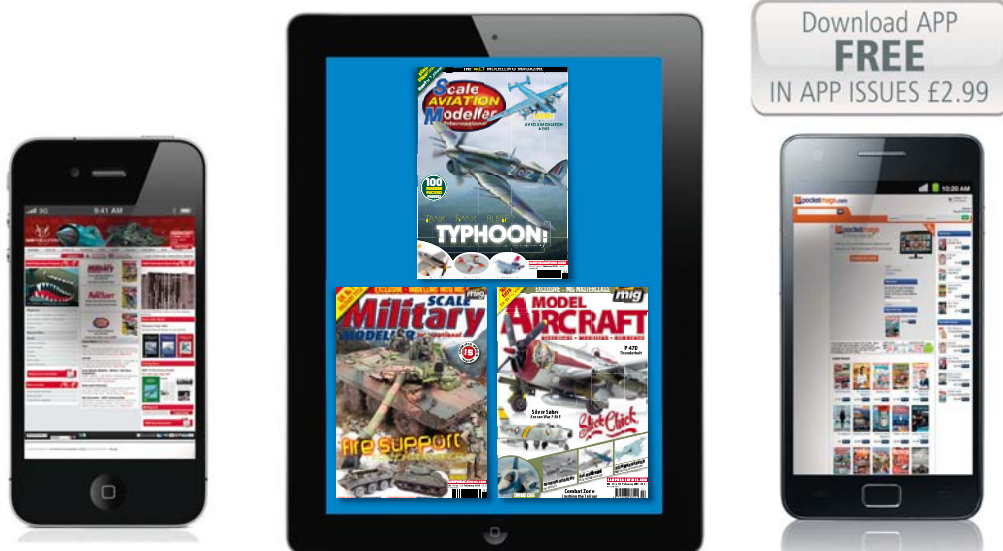
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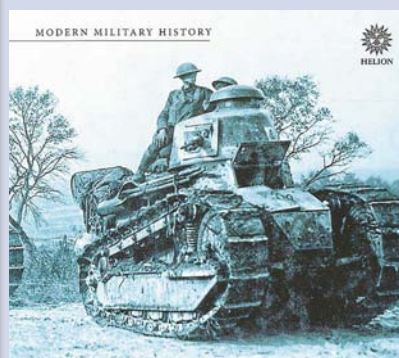
Publisher: Helicon & Company

Edited by Alaric Searle

ISBN: 9781909982222

Format: Hardback, 224 pages

Price: £29.99



Genesis, Employment, Aftermath

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Edited by Alaric Searle

Paul Middleton

The contents of this excellent book are all in the title as it gives an in depth history of the initial development of the tank, and what happened after 1918. Perhaps the most interesting section is the post Armistice use of tanks around the world, especially that of the FT-17. The book also focuses on how primitive some of the solutions were for the challenges that were met on the path to armoured warfare, as the designers and engineers were working in totally uncharted territory. Many mistakes occurred, but vast progress was made. The price may seem steep for a relatively small book, but if you want the product of intensive research, this is it.

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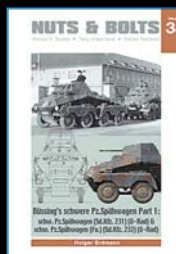
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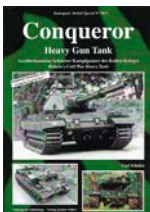
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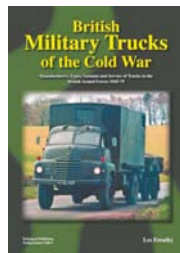
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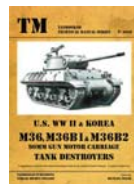
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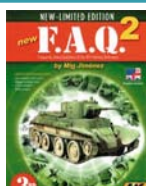
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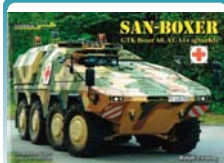
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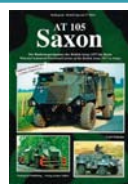
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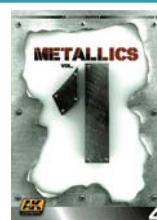
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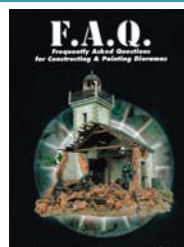
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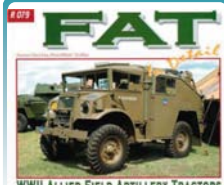
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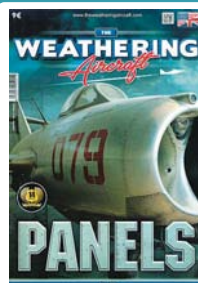
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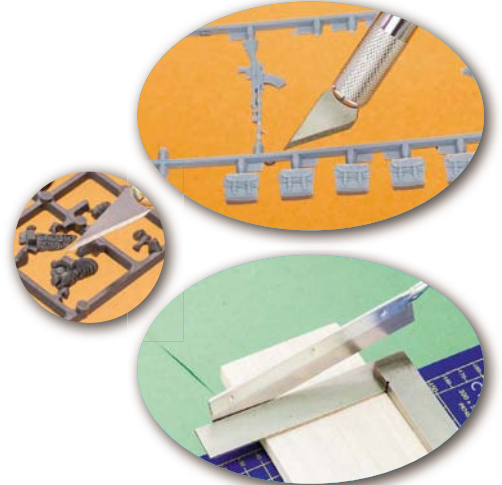
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An abandoned Sherman in the shallows of the Tarawa Lagoon

IN THE OPENING STAGES OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR IN THE PACIFIC, AMERICAN LIGHT TANKS DID NOTHING TO STAVE OFF AMERICA'S defeat in the Philippines. American light tank crews arrived on Luzon ill-prepared to fight armoured warfare against the Japanese. The Stuart tank found itself bested by the Japanese Type-97 and the small American tank force was soon lost during the retreat to Bataan. Once the American built Lee and Sherman medium tanks entered the fray Japanese tanks became obsolete overnight. The American tanks provided an advantage but certainly not a decisive one once operations commenced to drive the Japanese back across the Pacific. In many places the medium tanks were simply

Dubbed 'Lucky Legs II' by its crew this Sherman is supporting US troops on Bougainville in March 1944



American armour was not impervious to Japanese shellfire as this turretless Sherman testifies



THE STUART TANK FOUND ITSELF BESTED BY THE JAPANESE TYPE-97 AND THE SMALL AMERICAN TANK FORCE WAS SOON LOST DURING THE RETREAT TO BATAAN



too heavy and troops relied on light tanks to provide support. Despite the massive resources of the US Fleet and the US Marine Corps, once a tank crew were ashore they were pretty much on their own. Often on the confines of the small atolls tanks provided tempting and vulnerable targets for Japanese gunners. In the Pacific US tank crews sweltered inside their tanks enduring heat exhaustion, dehydration and malaria.

During 1942-43 the Japanese garrisons in the Pacific turned every island they occupied into fortresses defended by mines, barbed wire, bunkers, pillboxes, weapons pits, tank traps, trenches, anti-tank guns and heavy artillery. The beaches were sown with mines and artillery shells and littered with obstacles. On the larger islands they also burrowed into and fortified the inland hills and mountains to create stop points and bunker networks from where they could continue to resist. Umurbrogol Mountain on Peleliu and Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima were prime examples of this. Under such conditions the M3 Stuart's and M4 Sherman's role was to help the troops get off the beaches and engage enemy strongpoints. Terrain in the Pacific ensured that the M3/M5 Stuart light tank remained of help throughout the war. Due to the poor types of anti-tank weapon possessed

by the Japanese and the geography of the islands such as New Guinea the small size and manoeuvrability of the American light tanks were often more important than heavier armour and more powerful armament.

The M4 Sherman medium tank was used extensively by the US Army and the US Marine Corps from late 1943 onwards, and was involved in almost every island hopping battle fought in the Pacific. The Sherman was vulnerable to the Japanese 47mm anti-tank gun that could penetrate the tank's side armour. To counter this threat the crews made various field modifications using spare track blocks, bogie wheels, oak planks and sandbags. The frontal armour in contrast could withstand such punishment. The 47mm Type 1 anti-tank gun was the most modern in the Japanese inventory but retained the driven trail spades that hampered the manoeuvrability of the previous 37mm gun. While it could penetrate the side armour of American medium tanks, the small bursting charge inside the round often failed to explode. Serving as a driver in a Sherman equipped with a dozer blade, Nile E Darling a USMC tanker recalled "We took a direct hit from an enemy 47mm anti-tank gun. It hit the front slope plate of the tank and right in front of me. Since they were using smokeless powder and leaving no dust, we had trouble spotting their emplacement. My tank commander gave me the order to put the tank into reverse gear, my hand on my lap and not touch the brake lever, which I did and we backed up a few feet and then they hit us again. We then moved straight forward a few feet and they hit us a third time. We took five hits – none of which penetrated - before we could locate their gun and destroy it."

During the attack on Guadalcanal the amphibious Landing Vehicle Tracked (LVT) was mainly used for logistical support. The development of the LVT-4 allowed for disembarkation by a rear ramp which greatly enhanced its combat utility. It was bloodied in this second role during the amphibious



A Japanese Type-97 'Te-Ke' tankette on Namur Island, Kwajalein Atoll which was captured in early 1944



WAR ZONE

The Perils Facing American Tanks During The Pacific War

assault on Tarawa when 125 were committed to the attack. They were to ferry men across the coral reef and through the shallows to the beach. At Tarawa the Marines found that the tide had not risen sufficiently to clear the reef on 20 November 1943 when they assaulted the island with Operation Galvanic. Only the LVTs got over leaving the landing craft stranded. On the way in the LVTs suffered from the intense Japanese fire and those that made it ashore were unable to clear the log sea wall. The return trip to the reef proved equally hazardous. As a result only 35 remained operational by the end of the opening day of the invasion.

Similarly the tank landing craft were hampered by the reef and suffered in the lagoon. On the east end of the beach two Stuart light tanks got ashore only to be knocked out. Six Shermans disembarked from their landing craft and climbed over the reef to be guided in by marines on foot. Several were lost in sink holes and their engines drowned, but those reaching the western end of the island pushed forward to 270m off the shore. One became stranded in a tank trap while another detonated a magnetic mine. A third tank had its 75mm gun damaged by an incoming Japanese shell so acted as a mobile pillbox. Four further tanks came ashore at noon, by which time the Marines had secured the beach up to the first line of Japanese defences. By the end of the day only one tank remained in action. In the mid-afternoon the Japanese garrison commander ordered two Type 95s to cover his withdrawal from the concrete command post at the western end of the airfield. As he and his men gathered outside the bunker American naval gunfire landed in their midst and killed them all.

As a result of the lessons learned at Tarawa it was very evident that the LVT was too lightly armoured and too poorly armed. Some were converted into 'amtracs' or amphibious tanks armed with a 37mm gun or 75mm howitzer mounted in the M3 light tank turret to provide close fire support. LVTs subsequently played a key role in the Leyte landings and the Battle of Okinawa. After the Marines came ashore on Guam either side of the Orote Peninsula on 21 July 1944 those



A Japanese Type-94 Tankette captured during the bloody Battle of Okinawa which lasted from early April until mid-June 1945

on the northern beach met stiff resistance until the arrival of the tanks improved the situation. On the southern beach the Japanese counter-attacked around Hill 40 on numerous occasions. The attacks resulting in heavy Japanese casualties were supported by four Type 95 Ha-Go tanks which were easily destroyed by the Marines' bazookas or Shermans. In total the Japanese were to lose ten Type 95s on Guam. General Takashina the garrison commander was killed by machine gun fire from a Sherman as he was overseeing the withdrawal in the Fonte area. Shermans of the 3rd Marine Tank Battalion were also involved in the fighting around Agana east of the northern beachhead.

The amphibious assault on Peleliu Island on 15 September 1944 was the first time that the US Marines had armoured support for a landing. The plan was that the waterproofed Sherman tanks of the 1st Tank Battalion would disembark from their landing craft half a mile from the beach and cross the shallow waters while providing close gunfire support. The presence of a reef around the island meant that the Marines' Amtracs had

to conduct a very exposed ferry service from the reef.

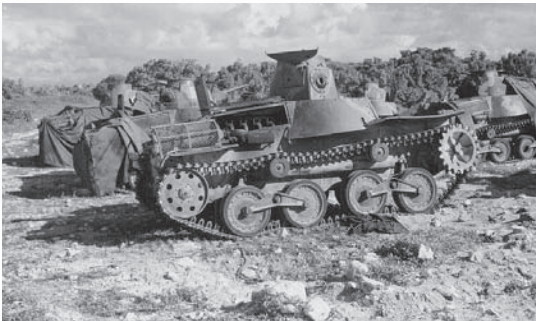
The right hand brigade was allocated six Shermans, nine to the one in the centre and fifteen to the left hand brigade. The other sixteen of the US 1st Marine Division's forty-six tanks had to be left behind due to lack of shipping space. The well dug-in Japanese garrison numbered 11,000 veteran troops supported by Type 95 Ha-Go light tanks armed with a 37mm gun (other sources state they were the tiny two-man light Type-94 tankette – either way they were wholly inadequate). Within minutes of the first waves hitting the beach twenty-six Amtracs were hit by accurate Japanese artillery and mortar fire. Some of these were carrying the assault force's communications equipment. The fourth wave included some thirty waterproofed tanks that waded ashore in six columns of five tanks each led by an Amtrac. Japanese artillery and mortar fire was so intense that seventeen of the tanks were hit up to four times each, though only three were lost before reaching the beach. The Japanese responded to the invasion by launching a counter-attack across Peleliu airfield with up to nineteen tanks. In an effort to close with the Marines as quickly as possible the tanks quickly left behind the assaulting infantry.

Marine Robert Leckie was caught right in the firing line "Their tanks swooped suddenly upon us. They came tearing across the airfield, a dozen or so of them. It was startling. They came out of nowhere, and there were only riflemen and machine gunners to oppose them." Leckie and his comrades were trapped in a bomb crater as "The enemy tanks whizzed past, their little wheels whirling within their tracks." The 75mm guns of three Shermans, 37mm anti-tank guns, bazookas and anti-tank grenades met the Japanese tanks. One Marine said "A tank rushed for the machine-gun on my right. 'Stoney' stands up in his foxhole (he's a lad with guts) and lets go a burst of automatic



A Japanese Type-95 in the hills around Shuri on Okinawa

fire. The tank was not ten foot away when it burst into flame, leaving a trailing fire as it still rolled forward." The vehicle forced the machine gunners to flee for their lives as the burning tank rolled over their position and crushed their weapon. When the Japanese tanks were approximately halfway across the airfield four Shermans appeared to the south. The US Marine Corps tankers found that their armour piercing rounds went straight through the tanks' thin armour so resorted to using high explosive which blew them apart.



The Japanese Type-95 'Ha-Go' light tank went into production in 1936 and over 2,000 were built

While the marines opened up with everything they had, a US Navy dive-bomber also swooped in and dropped a bomb. Taking up the story again Leckie says "Once a torpedo plane flashed by, so low its belly might have scraped the coral. To my right, I saw a line of our tanks advancing firing as they came, seeming to stop each time their guns stuttered. Then it was over." Corpsman



Type-95s belonging to the Japanese 16th Tank Regiment captured on Marcus Island

Jack McCombs witnesses a bazooka team destroy one of the attacking force: "A Jap was cut in half by machine gun fire as he tried to get out of his tank. As a joke the guys carried his pants with the parts of his legs in them and threw them to one another. I know it sounds gruesome but it helped break the tension." Marine Eugene Sledge recorded this change in Japanese tactics: "Rather than a banzai, the Japanese counterthrust turned out to be a well-coordinated tank-infantry attack. Approximately one company of Japanese infantry, together with about thirteen tanks, had moved carefully across the airfield until annihilated by the Marines on our left. This was our first warning that the Japanese might fight differently than they had elsewhere."

In fact the Battle of Saipan fought in June 1944 witnessed the largest Japanese tank battle of the Pacific War when the Japanese

committed a much larger number of Type 97 medium tanks and Type 95 light tanks. Likewise the Battle of Okinawa fought in the first half of 1945 saw the Japanese commit just under thirty tanks.

As the situation deteriorated for the Japanese in the Pacific, in April 1944 the 9th Armoured Regiment of the Japanese 1st Tank Division was reassigned to 31st Army, and dispatched to Saipan, where it was annihilated at the subsequent Battle of Saipan and Battle of Guam. Its remaining three regiments participated in Operation Ichi-Go in mainland China. The remaining units of the 2nd Tank Division were reassigned to the Japanese Fourteenth Area Army, and sent to the Philippines in July 1944, where they were annihilated at the subsequent Battle of the Philippines. *Military*



A Type-95 'Ha-Go' captured on Guam - on 21st July 1944 the Japanese lost 10 of these to Sherman and Bazooka fire



WAS IS DAS?

Scale 1:35 / Flak 30 1940 Production



As is usual from Dragon, the kit built up with few issues

KEVIN POTTS DETAILS THE 1:35 DRAGON SD.KFZ.10/4 AS SEEN ON THE EASTERN FRONT IN 1941

FLAK 30 DRAGON

AFTER RECEIVING DRAGON'S SD.KFZ.10/4 FR 2CM FLAK 30 1940 PRODUCTION I WAS ABLE TO FIND SEVERAL IMAGES OF SUCH a vehicle in use on the Eastern Front in 1941. These photographs led to my inspiration for this build, in which the vehicle configuration would be slightly different than shown in the instructions. The kit was broken down into sub-components, starting with the chassis frame and running gear, which went together well, although I replaced the front

wheels with two resin ones from Panzer Art. Next it was the engine and transmission, which has the option of leaving the hood open to see the work, but I chose to leave this closed. The crew compartment was where most of my work took place, and once I was able to overcome some minor fit issues, it was onto the gun. I replaced the kit barrel with a turned one from Aber, #35L-09 for added realism. The kit-supplied ammunition storage bins around the mesh sides were



also replaced with etched ones from Griffon Models, and although they were time consuming to build they looked fantastic when complete. I also covered the windshield with a tarp made from a tea bag. With the vehicle complete, I assembled the two figures, which came from Dragon's 'German Warrior' set #6574 with the addition of Hornet heads. I also added a full complement of personal gear and a resin radio set from Verlinden with a 1.5 metre brass antenna from Friul.

EASTERN FRONT 1941

Sd.Kfz. 10/4 für 2cm FlaK 30 1940 Production

Was ist das?



KIT DATA

Sd.Kfz. 10/4 für 2cm FlaK 30 1940 Production

Manufacturer: Dragon

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded

Kit Number: 6711



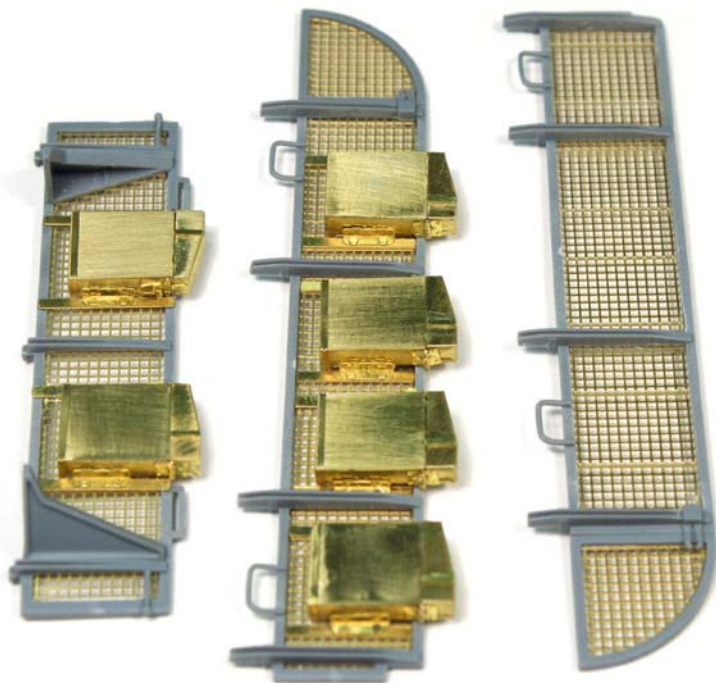
THE TWO FIGURES, CAME FROM DRAGON'S 'GERMAN WARRIOR'
SET WITH THE ADDITION OF HORNET HEADS





WAS IS DAS?

Scale 1:35 / Flak 30 1940 Production



The completed model and figures – seen here being test fitted

The ammunition storage bins around the mesh sides replaced with etched ones from Griffon Models

Painting began with the kit broken down into four main sub-assemblies, these being the hull, the weapons, the tracks and wheels, the figures and the ancillary items. I used flat Vallejo flat Black for the bottom sections and the recessed areas of the vehicle. Then I applied a mixture of Vallejo shades to get the red I wanted for the primer coat. With this dry, I applied a layer of hairspray and then added a coat of Model Master Panzer Grey. After the initial thin layer, I lightened this three times, each time applying a lighter coat on select areas. This added some additional depth and discoloration. Once the painting was complete, I used some warm water and a paintbrush to remove some of the grey to reveal the red and black underneath, and any additional chipping was completed with a paintbrush and sponge. Next I applied small amounts of Johnson's 'Klear' on certain areas for the decals, followed by a brush with Panzer Grey to add a little chipping to the edge of some of the decals. Once I was

satisfied with the result, I finished off with a light wash.

Next was the dirt and mud, and for this I used several different MIG Productions pigments, which I sprinkled on and then used Tamiya thinner get them to adhere. This method prevented the pigment from being locked onto the vehicle so if I didn't like part of the mud, I could remove it with some warm water and a brush. I also made slurry from these pigments and then using an old paintbrush, I flicked the slurry onto the vehicle in certain areas, always looking at this process from the standpoint of how mud spatter would be created by the wheels, and then by the crew climbing onto the vehicle. Once I was fully satisfied with the mud, I assembled the tracks and front resin wheels, and then suitably



I applied a mixture of Vallejo shades to get the red I wanted for the primer coat...

EASTERN FRONT 1941

Sd.Kfz.10/4 für 2cm FlaK 30 1940 Production



**I added some spent
shell casings to the
rear compartment**





WAS IS DAS?

Scale 1:35 / Flak 30 1940 Production



...followed by a layer of hairspray and a coat of Model Master Panzer Grey



A nicely distressed marking on the trailer adds realism...

painted, weathered and muddied them up. Now the gun could be mounted onto the vehicle and a final round of chipping, rust, and dry pigments ensured everything blended together. Now that the vehicle was finished I turned my attention to the figures and ancillary gear. Both figures were painted with various Vallejo shades with their skin receiving a flesh tone oil glaze as the final step. The ammunition cans and radio received some flat black primer and a light coat of silver in high wear areas, Vallejo Chipping Medium was then added and then a top coat. Once dry, the pieces were chipped and outlined with Sepia ink, applied as

a pin-wash and then they were glued into place along with some spent 2cm casings on the gun platform.

Both figures now standing can be seen putting on their uniforms as they watch something in the distance that has caught their attention. Perhaps that something is their section Sergeant coming to check up on them, but either way it looks like one is saying to the other, 'Was ist das?' *Military*



...as does a broken headlamp glass

A tea bag tarpaulin was added over the windshield



MAFVA

Miniature Armoured Fighting Vehicles Association
MAFVA exists to promote and interest in AFV's and their associated equipment, and to act as a non-profit making organisation for the collection and dissemination of information. We try to answer queries and seek sources of information for our fast growing international membership, and to encourage correspondence between those with similar interests. The interests within MAFVA run from World War One to the present day, although a greater emphasis is centred on the Second World War. The majority of members make and/or collect models, and there are many who only gather information on military subjects, whilst others work on, or even collect full sized military vehicles. In addition to this we aim to provide our members with a quality bi-monthly magazine 'Tankette'. Local branches are being continually formed both in the UK and overseas, and are encouraged to hold meetings, displays and competitions to enable their members to get more out of their hobby, by meeting others with similar interests and to share information and expertise.

Joining MAFVA

For more information or details on joining MAFVA please contact the Membership Secretary: Neil Wharton, MAFVA 85 Alexander Avenue, Earl Shilton, Leicestershire. LE9 7AH.
neil11315@yahoo.co.uk

■ membership@mafva.net

Current subscription rates are:

UK and HM Forces £16

Europe/ Rest of the World (Surface mail) £24

Rest of the World (Airmail) £33

■ www.mafva.net

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Research and Accuracy

PRESENTED BY PAUL MIDDLETON

HOW FAR DO YOU GO IN YOUR QUEST TO BUILD AN ACCURATE SCALE REPRESENTATION OF A military vehicle? Many of us are quite happy to build a kit 'out of the box' - without modifications, and with the current quality of kits there is nothing wrong with this. Then you start spotting simple improvements such as replacing handles that are moulded on as solid lumps with some fine wire. Then you start adding headlight wiring, extra stowage boxes, filling gaps and applying non-slip surfaces, all simple jobs. Of course, there are some kits which are genuine 'dogs' and require a bit of surgery. But how do you know the degree of inaccuracy, and does it really warrant chopping up a nicely moulded kit? The advent of the Internet forum has proliferated the instant condemnation of a new kit before it has even been released. However, these same forums will hopefully allow you to sort the 'wheat from the chaff', and also point to references that will allow you to compare the kit with a scale drawing.

There are now many fine books available with varying degrees of useful information. Museums can be beneficial for looking at the original AFV, as can military vehicle shows, but surviving examples sometimes have non-original modifications. In that case you need to compare the example with period photographs. Bovington Tank Museum is helpful in that it can provide information packs, which hopefully satisfy your needs.

There is also MAFVA, the miniature Armoured Fighting Vehicle Association which was originally set up fifty-years ago to allow



enthusiasts to exchange information through our magazine 'Tankette', which it still does. Back in the beginning it was pre-Internet days, we relied on the postal services to bring us an information exchange, unless we were close enough to be able to attend branch meetings. An early example of a 'challenge' was the release of the Airfix 1:76 Crusader kit. This just looked wrong, as it was too long! The researcher had supplied the overall



length including the long-range fuel tank at the back, however the master maker had taken that length as the hull length without the fuel tank, resulting in the nickname of 'King Crusader'. The problem that arose was that so many folk built the kit 'out of the box' so

corrected models looked too short!

One of the many bonuses of membership of MAFVA is the research officer, who can provide information, or point you in the right direction. With fifty-years of archives and plans being updated as more information comes to light, there is a lot of information available, so if we don't have the information we usually know a man who does!

As final note, no modeller should feel forced to change or improve a model if they do not wish to. This is after all a hobby, and we should derive pleasure from it.



Military

d-day

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT!

CHRISTOFF THEUNISSEN PRODUCES A STUNNING 1:35 D-DAY DIORAMA SHOWING A CAPTURED ATLANTIC WALL BUNKER

THE INSPIRATION FOR THIS 1:35 DIORAMA CAME FROM A D-DAY BATTLEFIELD TOUR I DID IN 2013. SEVERAL KITS WERE USED, MOST NOTABLY TAMIYA'S CROMWELL MK IV, US WILLYS MB JEEP, German 7.5cm Anti-tank gun Pak40/L46, British BSA M20 Motorcycle with Military Policemen and British Infantry on patrol. Several items from Tamiya's barricade set as well as their fuel drum set were also used, with bits and pieces either scratchbuilt or coming from my spares-box. The bunker was scratchbuilt, and forms the centrepiece of the diorama, and instead of modelling a specific beach or moment in time, I elected to incorporate several items found on most, if not all the D-Day beaches after the landings took place.



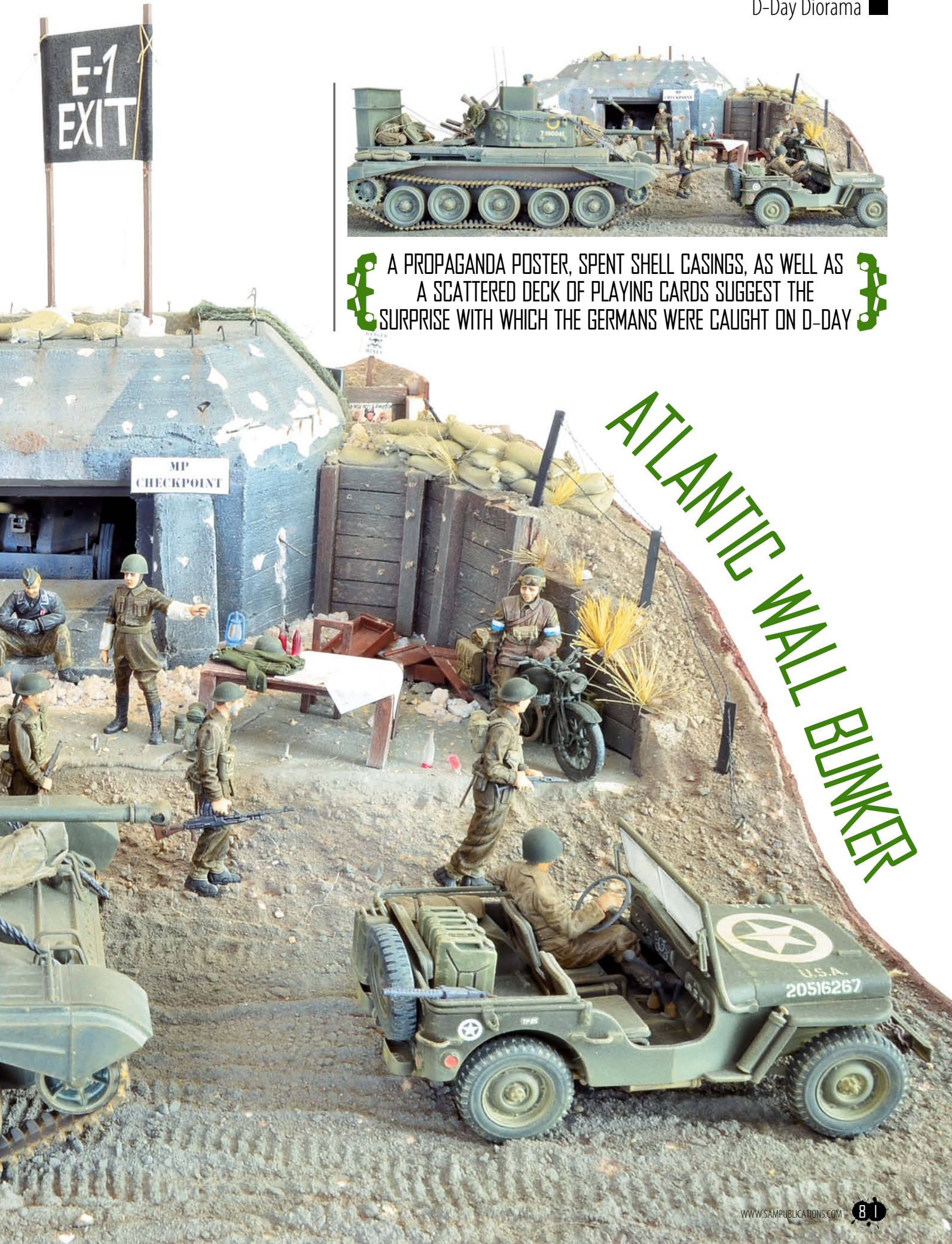
CAPTURED BUNKER

D-Day Diorama



A PROPAGANDA POSTER, SPENT SHELL CASINGS, AS WELL AS
A SCATTERED DECK OF PLAYING CARDS SUGGEST THE
SURPRISE WITH WHICH THE GERMANS WERE CAUGHT ON D-DAY

ATLANTIC WALL BUNKER





THE CROMWELL

The Cromwell was assembled straight-from-the-box with a scratchbuilt wading trunk added, along with its associated hatch cover on the turret made from a soda can, and with a stowed camouflage net fashioned from medical gauze. The tow cables were repositioned as indicated in my references, and canvas covers were made from tissue paper soaked in thinned white glue. The running gear was left off the model at this stage to facilitate painting and weathering. The exterior was painted with Tamiya Dark Green as a basecoat, then successive lighter shades of Dark Green mixed with Tamiya Buff

were used to highlight details and to create tonal variation. At this point the model received a gloss coat to protect the paint from the weathering effects to follow.

A dot filter was then applied with downward streaks using a flat brush used to replicate some dried out seawater from the landing onto the beach. The hull and details were then dry-brushed with Vallejo acrylics to bring out the details. The road wheels, idlers and drive sprockets were painted concurrently with the rest of the model, with Vallejo Dark Greys used for the rubber surfaces of the road wheels. A light yellow wash was applied to the lower hull surfaces,

and the wheels were then added to the hull, followed by the tracks, which were painted with a dark grey mix of Humbrol enamels. Smaller details such as the tools were painted using Vallejo acrylics, and also with oils used to add some tonal variation. MIG Productions Gulf Sand pigment was used to add some dirt in the nooks and crannies, followed by a coat of Humbrol Matt.

THE JEEP AND PAK 40

Tamiya's Jeep and PaK 40 gun were again built straight-from-the-box. The Jeep was painted in Tamiya Olive Drab, and received the same weathering treatment as the Cromwell. My references showed that US forces were frequently mixed with the Commonwealth forces, and vice-versa, so the Jeep was left in its original US colours and markings. The PaK 40 was painted in Tamiya Desert Yellow, and camouflaged with Red Brown Olive Green. The artist's oils, washes and some Mig Productions pigments completed the painting and weathering of the gun. More emphasis was placed on a dusty appearance to create a battle worn effect.

THE BUNKER

In order to create a realistic reinforced concrete bunker, this piece was scratchbuilt in much the same way and using similar tools and materials as the real thing, still found on the western coasts of Europe along the infamous 'Atlantic Wall.' An upside-down balsa wood casting mould was built and glued to a sheet of cork. The thin, stiff wire



CAPTURED BUNKER

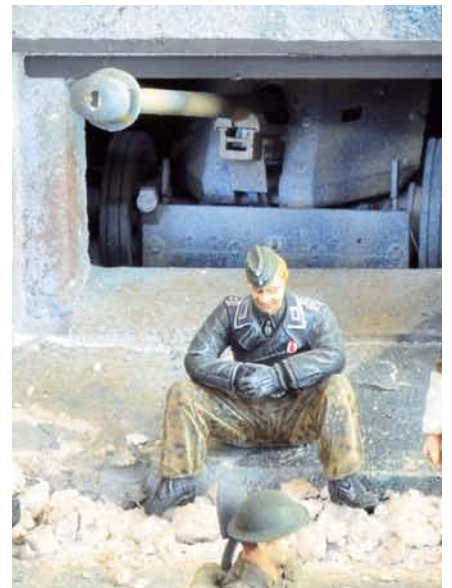
D-Day Diorama



was woven into a mesh, and sections of this were placed against the mould side where battle damage would have been exposed. A concrete mix consisting of household filler plaster, construction cement, sand and water was mixed and poured into the upside-down roof section mould. This was then left for forty-eight hours to harden and set properly. The wall sections and gun opening were then built on top of the still upside-down roof section to form a mould. More concrete mix followed, and was again left to dry. All the balsa wood mould sections were then removed, leaving a slight hint of wood grain embedded into the 'concrete', just like the real thing. A floor was built from balsa wood, painted grey, and weathered with rubble glued with white glue to suggest some battle damage.



The PaK was then fixed to the floor, along with spent ammunition cases, ammunition boxes, and other bits and pieces that would have littered the ground in a knocked-out bunker. The completed floor assembly was then fixed underneath. The bunker was painted in a 'splinter pattern' of dark and light greys, with rain and rust streaking added using oils and enamel washes. Tapping the bunker with a nail and hammer and chipping pieces off added more battle damage. The base was made from a thick styrofoam sheet shaped with a knife, and then glued to a wood board for support, and the bunker was then fixed to the base using copious amounts of white glue. The groundwork, consisting of plaster filler, fine



sand and cat litter spread over the top, was added to the base and left to dry for twenty-four hours. Track marks, footprints, and a wire mesh traction mat were added while the groundwork was still malleable. The groundwork was then painted with Tamiya acrylics in colours ranging from dark greys and browns, to light buff, and enamel washes and dry brushing added the final touches. Tufts of static grass were added, along with the various pieces of war debris commonly found on the D-Day beaches.





DIO-ARMOUR

Scale 1:35 / D-Day



CAPTURED BUNKER

D-Day Diorama

FINAL TOUCHES

Then a scratchbuilt wooden table with items of German uniform and wine bottles mixed in with campaign maps were added to give the diorama a human touch, with the German PoW looking rather dismayed and in a state of disbelief at the day's events. Other small details added include a propaganda poster, spent shell casings, a curious cat, as well as a scattered deck of playing cards to suggest the surprise with which the Germans were caught on D-Day. The rest of the figures



as well as the vehicles were added in such a fashion to show the military policemen using the bunker as a improvised checkpoint, directing the advancing armour and infantry inland.

The diorama was shown at the IPMS Cape Peninsula Cape Scale Modeller's Club

70th D-Day Anniversary meeting on June 6th, 2014, and was also entered in the Club's Model of the Year 2015 competition where it took '1st Place Overall,' as well as '1st Place Popular Vote'. Military



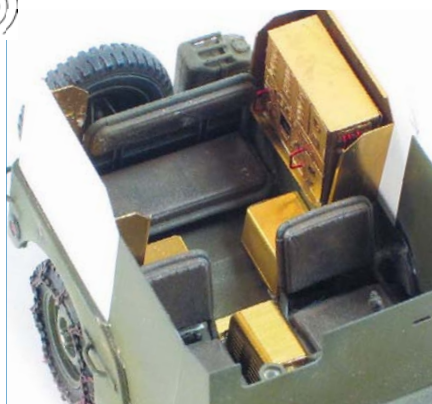
radio wav

**ANDY RENSHAW CONTINUES HIS ACCLAIMED SERIES WITH THIS
WORLD WAR II ARMoured JEEP WITH SCR-193 SET**

MOBILE UNIT COMMANDS

ONE OF THE PRIMARY REQUIREMENTS OF ANY MILITARY UNIT IS TO HAVE THE ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE. FOR LARGER commands, a stationary command center would push out high-powered signals, which would be relayed among mobile units in the field. Smaller vehicles often acted as mobile unit commands for the company and platoon level, and these would always be equipped with some type of radio. During World War II, most radios were still using vacuum tube technology, which required larger boxes with plenty of 'breathing room' to keep the cool. An assortment of several components was needed, all with major functions including the transmitter, receiver, and dynamotor, each being housed separately. These were tethered together with various cables, junction boxes, batteries, keys, speakers, and headsets, to form an entire radio set. The SCR-193 was such a set, and weighing in at 234lbs it would easily fill up the rear of a quarter-ton jeep. Stationary, the AM radio had a range of sixty miles for cypher code and twenty miles with voice; however, ranges while moving were cut in half.

You may be familiar with the depot kit armour package that was added to jeeps late in 1944. Used by the 82nd Airborne and others, there are some famous images of the line of them driving through the snow or the one with bazooka mounted. There is a



The Minor radios and equipment being added. Each component took a full evening to assemble, and are nicely detailed

later photograph that shows a jeep with the armour package and the SCR-193. I always wanted to have a model of this and decided to use a partially built jeep that had been sitting unfinished for over a decade. This was the standard Tamiya kit, but with Eduard armour plate and Tank Workshop chained wheels, and the release of the SCR-193 by Minor Model gave me just what I needed to finish the project. Minor provides a full-etched set, which is not for the faint of heart. Though full of detail, each radio component

comprises of a dozen or more parts that have to be folded and glued. I tended to stretch my 'etch time' over several evenings to keep from going cross-eyed! However, in the end the set gives you everything including all the junction boxes, radios, generator, batteries, and other bits. Several of the components have options to show them open or closed. Overall though, it does turn out very well and provides something not available from any other source.

As I started to install the Minor set, it became



Here you can see my unfinished jeep kit as described in the text, now sporting the Minor Model radio racks



es

WWII ARMoured JEEP

Radio Waves



I TENDED TO STRETCH MY 'ETCH TIME' OVER SEVERAL EVENINGS
TO KEEP FROM GOING CROSS-EYED!





SCR-193 SET

Armoured Jeep / WWII

apparent that the old Eduard armoured front around the driver and passenger was a tad oversize, and the Minor mounting shelving was dwarfed by the Eduard armour, and this should not be the case. So instead of ripping out the Eduard portion, I cut new 'false backs' from plastic stock for the SCR radio mounts, and simply matched them to the Eduard parts. It may not be 100% accurate, but the overall affect is pleasing and suited my needs. The rest of the radio



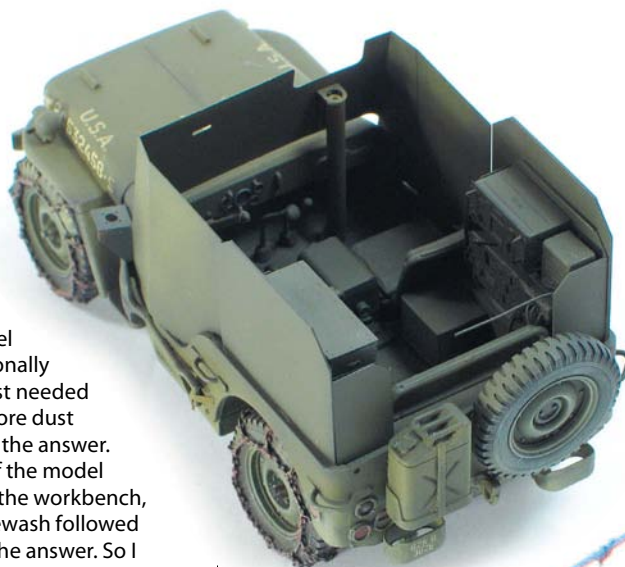
The camouflage net was rolled gauze and random length strips of paper and tape

set was then installed, including the various cables and connectors, which were made from fine wire. Paint was only needed on the added Minor parts, however an airbrush was used to blend the newly painted areas in with the older ones that had already been applied. This was actually accurate, as many times the radio set was added later in a particular jeeps operational history. After the coat of Dark Green and then Olive Drab, weathering of was done using Ammo of MIG washes and their 'Rainmarks' effect. The camouflage netting was made from rolled gauze with small strips of tape or paper cut to random sizes and tucked in. A dip in diluted PVA glue then helped the net conform to the contours of the bonnet. Once dry it was gently eased off, and could then be painted separately from the vehicle, or as part of the whole. A measured piece

of fine diameter piano wire made the scale twelve-foot whip aerial, which in turn was tied down using fly-fishing fly thread.

At this point the model was finished, but it personally didn't feel that way. It just needed something more, and more dust and rain marks were not the answer. After several evenings of the model staring back at me from the workbench, I felt a highly worn whitewash followed by some mud could be the answer. So I applied some Ammo of MIG 'Heavy Chipping Fluid' to the areas the whitewash would be applied and once dry I added a slightly thinned application of Lifecolor White. Immediately I dampened a cotton bud in water and started to remove the whitewash, creating a streaking affect. I also used a bit of thinned White to blend the edges and do further some refinement of the worn portions. In-between the chipping fluid and thinned paint, a very effective worn look was achieved. For the mud, I used Elmer's Carpenters Wood Filler. This is a series of pre-coloured filler that comes in a squeeze tube, and has a subtle texture and dries flat. The filler was slightly thinned with water and applied with an old brush, and I have to give credit to Steve Zaloga for discovering this product, as it really looks the part. With the whitewash and mud, the model now has a more completed look.

Thanks to Minor Model for the SCR-193 build sample. *Military*



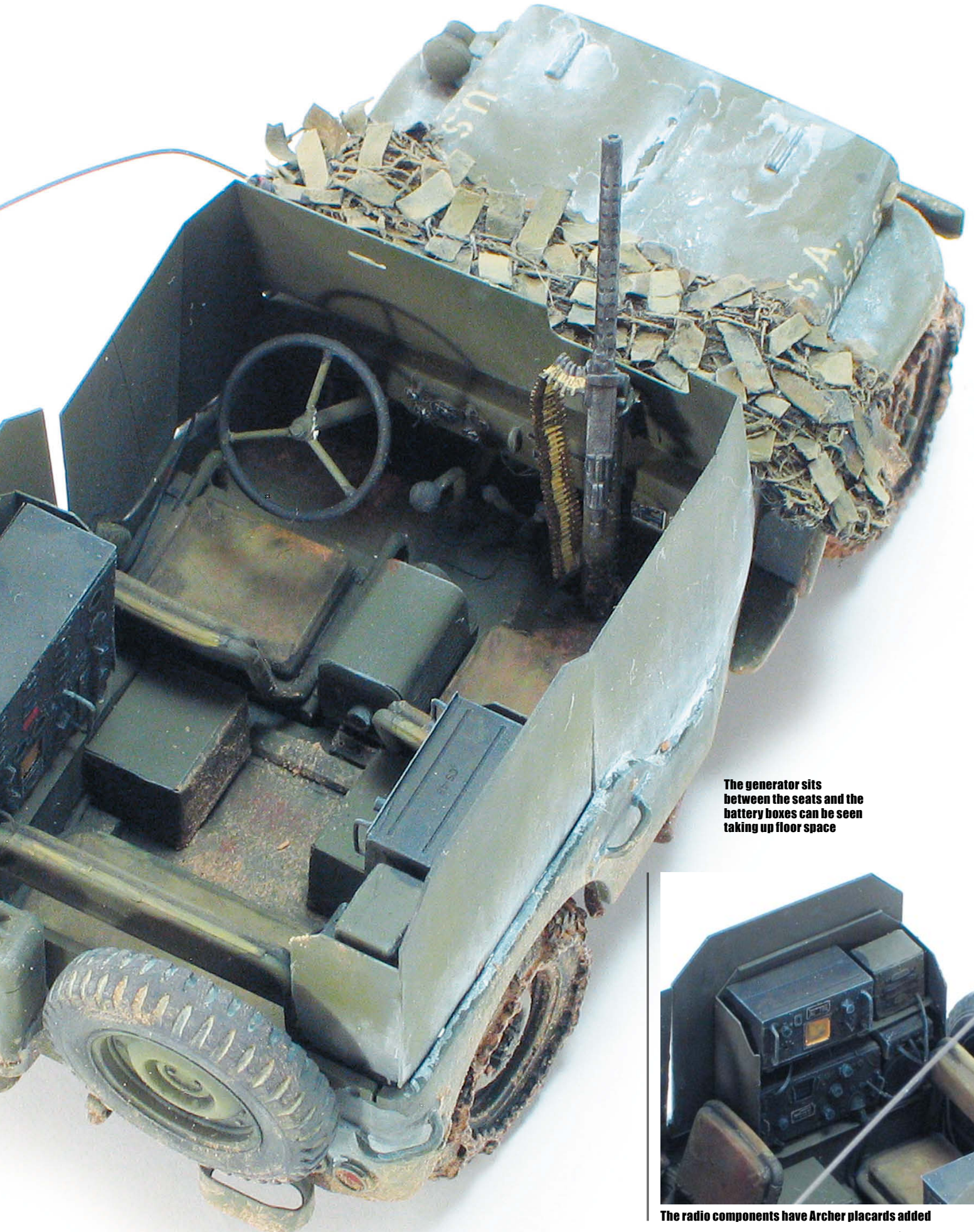
Base colour is applied over the new parts, leaving previous work untouched



Elmer's Carpenters Wood Filler was used to replicate some caked on mud

WWII ARMoured JEEP

Radio Waves



The generator sits between the seats and the battery boxes can be seen taking up floor space



The radio components have Archer placards added



MODELLING WITH MIG

Scale 1:35 / US M2A3 Bradley w/BUSK III



I LOVE THE APPEARANCE OF THIS 'BATTLE
BUS' WITH ALL ITS EXTRA ARMOUR



desert IFV

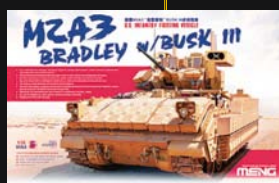
MARK CHISHOLM GUIDES YOU THROUGH PAINTING THE 1:35 MENG-MODEL US M2A3 BRADLEY W/BUSK III, USING AMMO OF MIG PRODUCTS

MENG-MODEL

MENG-MODEL HAS DELIVERED ANOTHER EXCELLENT KIT WITH A HUGE PARTS COUNT AND A FULL INTERIOR AVAILABLE! I FOR ONE really like the appearance of this 'battle bus' with all the extra armour that was necessary for the fighting that occurred in the built-up areas of Iraq from 2004 onwards. The

build was very straightforward thanks to a very comprehensive instruction manual, and one of the best features were the super-easy click together articulating tracks, which turned what is usually a chore into a pleasure.

Now because of all that additional detail, you do need to pay extra attention to planning the painting of the interior halfway through the build. As usual I try to build-up nearly as much as possible prior to painting, and I decided early on that I wanted as much of this detail to be shown off, by posing the engine bay and rear access ramp open. So, I gathered as many of the similar painted interior components together as possible and painted them in batches, using either the basic interior colour which was a custom mix pale green, or black for the smaller details and for the engine I used chrome silver. The weathering of the interior was very straightforward. I applied an all over filter using



KIT DATA

M2A3 Bradley w/BUSK III

Manufacturer: Meng-Model

Scale: 1:35

Kit Type: Plastic injection moulded with etch

Kit Number: SS-004

MODELLING WITH MIG

Scale 1:35 / US M2A3 Bradley w/BUSK III



The engine was treated with A.MIG-1e07 Streaking Grime

the A.MIG-1007 US Modern Vehicles Wash, together with A.MIG-3003 North Africa Dust Pigments, and that was really all that was required. The entire assembly was then completed adding the BUSK exterior details and the ERA tiles.

The kit contains four different marking options, however, as they are all painted in desert camouflage the individual unit markings are not particularly distinct. So in preparation for painting I applied some A.MIG-0092 Crystal Green to the periscopes and then masked them off. The entire model was primed with A.MIG-2005 Black Primer, and this provided both depth and an initial shade prior to the base camouflage colour being added. When you use a black primer always check to see that all the shadow areas are covered, and don't worry about getting total coverage with the basic camouflage shade. The camouflage colour used here was a custom mix of sand brown and buff, and after allowing the shades to cure for twenty-four hours a layer of acrylic gloss was sprayed over the entire model in order to form a protective barrier for the up and coming weathering steps.



Pigments were added for more effect



Streaking Grime gave a neat weathered appearance



Engine exhaust staining adds to the look



Subtle chipping was applied



A spotlighted look at the very nice interior



Various filters and washes from the A.MIG-7402 Engines Set were used



MODELLING WITH MIG

Scale 1:35 / US M2A3 Bradley w/BUSK III



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A.MIG-7406 – DAK
Set



A.MIG-7402 –
Engines Set



A.MIG-2005 –
Black Primer



A.MIG-092
– Chrystal
Green



The decals were then added and I applied a diluted A.MIG-1001 Afrika Korps Wash over the entire model, which immediately transformed the base colour giving a darker and much more realistic military appearance. Selected areas, in particular on the sides of the hull were also treated to an

application of A.MIG-1207 Streaking Grime for Modern US Vehicles. This is a much darker weathering product and must be applied in limited quantities. However, when combined with thinner you can produce some realistic grime streaks and similar effects. Another that presents a good opportunity for weathering is the engine, engine bay and transmission. I used various filters and washes from the A.MIG-7402 Engines Set, and one tip I can pass on is to add small quantities of pigment while the washes are still wet, to blend dust effects into the grease and grime of the engine.



I started by painting the tracks with A.MIG-2005 Black Primer, and then I added an overall coat of A.MIG-035 Dark Tracks, airbrushed onto both the front and rear of the tracks. Meng-Model also supplies an etched painting mask, which allows the painting of the rubber track pads to be very easily accomplished, and here I used A.MIG-033 Rubber and Tyres. I also used diluted

A.MIG-1408 Fresh Engine Oil airbrushed on to create some lubricant leaks at the relevant outlets, and this was followed a further spray of diluted NATO Black to create some sooty diesel exhaust stains. Pigments were the next medium that I used to create the illusion that the AFV was currently being used or had been recently deployed. The tracks were an area I wanted to show this, as if it had just recently come from out of the desert. So here I used mixture of sand and earth pigments dry brushed on and then stuck in place with fixer. This dusty pigment was also applied to the lower ERA brick side skirts, mixed with thinner. I then oversprayed

the lower hull using A.MIG-1620 Dust Effects Wash through my airbrush.

The final touches were to add small scratches using various acrylic shades and a fine brush. These were very subtle tiny chips as the M2A3s are coated with a very durable paint that does not come off easily.

MIG-092

The tracks had a mixture of sand and earth pigments dry brushed on and then stuck in place with fixer





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was now the 'Toyota War'! Now your carpet monster loves cars, but I wonder whether this was what the Japanese manufacturer envisaged when the type was designed?



IN THE NEXT ISSUE

For your March 2016 issue, here's just a little of what we have planned!

Takom Tank World – Chieftain

In the first of our superb Takom sponsored series Charlie Pritchett builds the new Chieftain Mk.5/5P, plus colour artwork and background details on the type, plus a look as its use by the Berlin Brigade.



Vietnam, 1968

Paul Von Hindenburg

Mark Dollery details the 1:10 Life Miniatures Bust

War Trophy

Kevin Potts builds a captured Willys Jeep using the 1:35 Tamiya kit

Cougar MRAP

Chester Uy Builds the 1:35 Meng-Model kit

Kampfgruppe Peiper Panther

Bob Westerman describes his build of the 1:35 Tamiya kit

Epic Fail

Larry Uchmanowicz looks at this unusual AVF Club M247 SGT York Air Defense Gun System

SA-2 Over Vietnam

Andrea Paternieri creates a stunning 1:35 V-750 Dvina SA-2 Surface-to-Air-Missile diorama as seen in North

Berlin's Bruiser

Robin Gilby details the Zvezda King Tiger

War Zone - Panzer Rival

Anthony Tucker-Jones exposes the controversy surrounding the highly successful Sturmgeschütz III Ausf G

Winston Churchill I915

Christoff Clery of Andrea Miniatures details the 54mm Metal Modeles figure

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